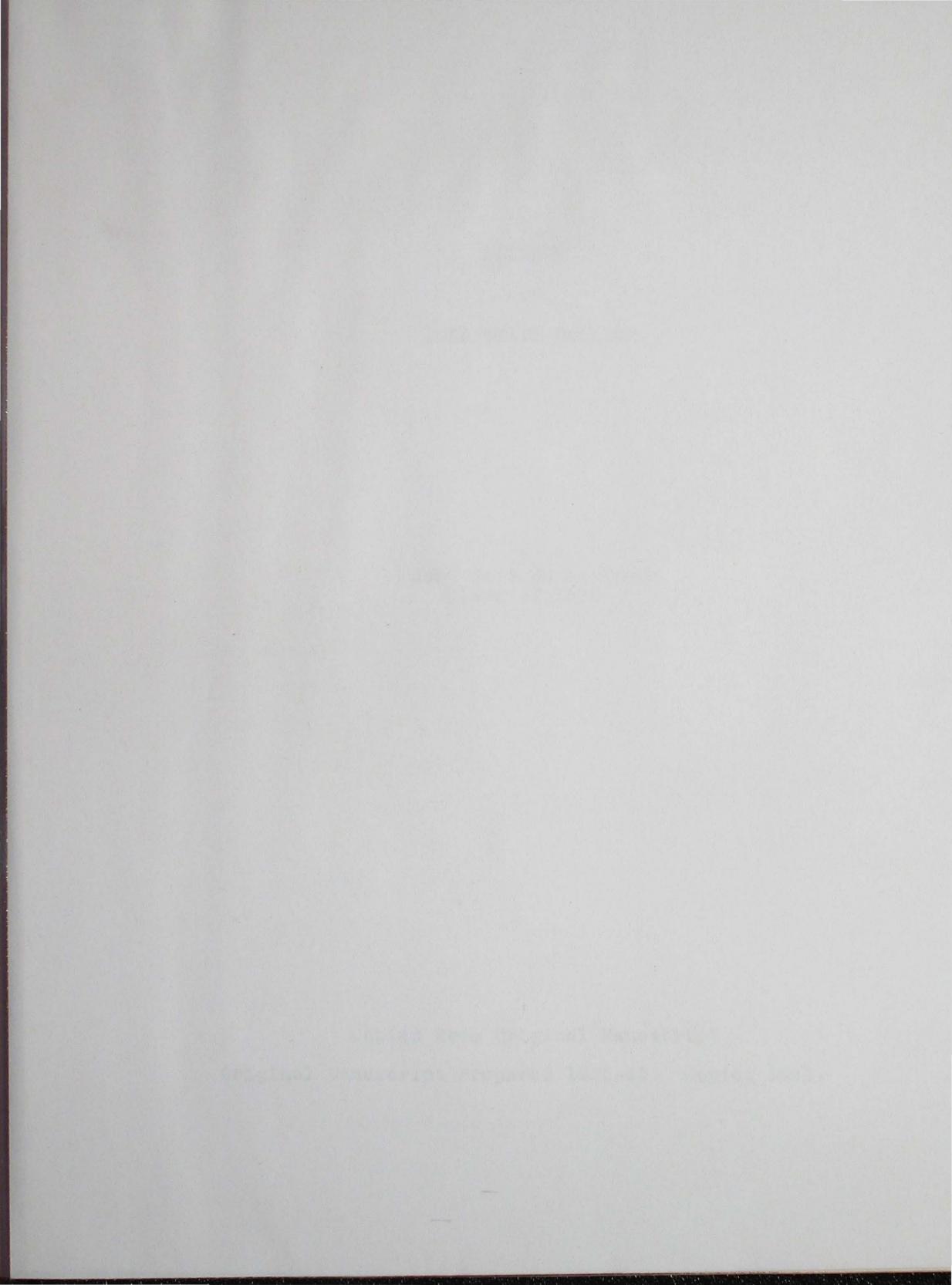
## SKETCHES OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE







SKETCHES

OF

IOWA STATE COLLEGE

John Boyd Hungerford Class of 1878

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Old Main -- Life of Students in the "College".\_\_\_\_ Typhoid Scourge - 1/ Boarding Department, etc., etc. Excursion Picnics Storm's Election and its Political Implications Student Manual Labor and its Discontinuance Budd's Russian Fruit Venture Fraternities Custed by Beardshear Wallace's Farmer and How Started 60 Fraternities Return to College Beginnings, etc., etc. 7/ Typhoid Scourge; its Cause, etc. Curtiss, and his accession to Farm Supt. and Head of Department\_ Miscellaneous and Sundry Curtiss and Wilson, A Homily // Holden Corn Trains and So-on 97 Extension of Sixth Street // 3 Location of Old Main Model of State Capitol Geddes and Lincoln //6 Class Graduates without Diplomas Beardshear Ubiquitous Student Self Government Term Schedule Changed / 55 "Alumnus" Founded

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occupancy in 1867, was the college. There was no other building, and within its sheltering walls were housed most of the faculty members and all the students. It was a complete college building, containing sleeping quarters, class rooms, public rooms and living quarters. Long after the institution had grown and departments had buildings of size and beauty of their own, the Main continued to be regarded as the college, its center and circumference.

Other buildings within the encircling horizon were secondary, it was premier. Until its destruction by fire in the early 1900's it retained its supremacy.

hundred and students and faculty members commingled in the spirit of a large family. Coming in contact every day, sometimes oftener, in class and laboratory practice, there was an intermingling that developed a spirit of community and a healthful interest in the main purposes. Because of those intimate personal associations and attachments then formed, the ties of early college days have been peculiarly lasting. There was a nearness between the faculty and students in the small colleges that was never possible in the larger institutions. The strong men and women in the faculty were interested in the welfare of the students and rendered assistance in many ways. Students were thereby inspired to greater effort and better accomplishments. This side of college life has disappeared in the mass associations of the universities and colleges of the present day, a consummation to

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be regretted.

ent parts of the state. As the year started in March, and the weather was generally inhospitable, the work of preparing living quarters was often fraught with difficulties. Students had been notified before leaving home what was necessary to bring in the nature of equipment for living quarters. First, a bed tick was essential, then were enumerated sheets, pillow and cases, and a few toilet articles. A supply of clean straw was piled at the entrance and from this ticks were filled and dragged to the rooms. Generally there were boys enough on hand to fill the ticks for the girls. Beds were easily "made" with the supply of new straw, but when the straw broke into short bits, as it did after a short time, and the slats beneath felt through, the soft beds that "mother made" were present in troubled dreams.

The rooms were scantily furnished. The list charged to the occupant included two straight backed chairs, a wardrobe, study table, washbowl and pitcher and waste receptacle. Carpets were permitted but not furnished. Decorations on the walls were taboo, as there was an effort to prevent defacement. Shelves were fastened to the walls to accommodate toilet articles, ornaments and bric-a-brac. The shaving kit, the bootjack and assortment of brushes were in evidence, and a vase for flowers had a place. Some of the boys used for vases the mustache cups that came among their Christmas gifts. The average students has pictures of some notable on the wall. It might be Lincoln,

Grant, Gladstone, Darwin or Agassiz. Or Frances Willard, Grace Darling, or highly colored plates from Gody's Ladies Book, or Pius IX et al. All depending on the taste of a widely differentiating multitude.

The white collared class was in a minority among the boys, who for the most part came from the farms and workshops. They were accustomed to the open spaces and cared less for the sartorial excellence than comfort and were satisfied with what was merely conventional. They all work boots, derby and sometimes stovepipe hats, string ties, red flannel underclothes, paper or celluloid collars and boiled shirts, with sizable solitaires in the bosom, also scarfs two feet wide and ten feet long and woolen socks. It was the day of the bull's eye watch and the hunter's case that could not be jammed if run over by a railroad train. The watch guard was a loop around the neck usually carrying a locket which contained the picture of the wearer's favorite. Stiff cuffs that extended to the finger tips were conspicuous and uncomfortable.

Doctor A. S. Welch, president for the first decade and a half, was a man of fine fibre. He was an educator of national prominence when, because of failing health, he was obliged to seek relief in change of climate. In the stirring days of reconstruction he was elected United States senator from Florida. His first arrival at Ames was delayed because of congressional duties, so when he took charge he was fresh from the activities of business and politics. He was splendidly equipped

for the duties of his new undertaking. In its organization he did not neglect spiritual needs of the student body and this side of college life he faithfully maintained. Mid-week meetings were fostered and sustained, and Sunday services were never omitted. When Dr. Welch preached there was always a large attendance. His addresses were full of experiences from varied phases of life, and his philosophy so inspiring that students seldom were absent without a cause. Professor W. H. Wynn, head of the department of English Literature, was also a favorite. His long periods and polysyllabic diction were sometimes mystifying, but there was so much in his preaching that students listened to with absorbed attention. It was said of him, however, if he were describing a minnow, he would, like Dr. Samuel Johnson, make it talk like a whale. Some of the best speakers in the country were called to conduct Sunday services. Their presence was a treat, as it afforded opportunity to see and hear notable pulpit orators. Nevertheless, they were the subject of criticism by the students. Students, at least in former years, have standards that few can attain. Their demands as a rule extend to the impossible and the instances are rare when they are disposed to commend. A college audience is the most difficult in the world to satisfy.

Darwinism made its way into the study of biology in the period that the college opened. Obviously, the origin of the species, descent of man, natural selection, etc., received

major attention. The Darwinian theory gripped the mind of the materialistic thinkers and afforded more definite basis on which to dispute the conclusions of revealed religion. On the other hand, more balanced thinkers saw in the theory nothing to affect the basis of orthodoxy. Not hesitating to follow the teaching of science, they insisted that it accept only truth as distinct from unwarranted assumption. The result was a clarification of the premises, leaving science holding its own and orthodoxy firm in the citadel of faith. Apropos, it is to be doubted that the college course had harmful effect on the religious mind of the students. They came from homes, good, bad and indifferent, on the religious question. A large per cent had vague, indefinite notions about spirit, biology or soul destiny. Through mental growth and the teaching of the savants, clarification came and young people went forth strengthened in the Spiritually, student experience at Ames served to refaith. enforce rather than to imperil the structure.

While the student body was much of a family group and students dwelt together in a community spirit, the system was distinctly the segregation of the sexes. Laws were laid down as immutable as those of the Medes and Persians -- "thus far shalt thou go and no farther". Young men and young women were under certain restrictions that must not be ignored. In the class rooms and in the dining hall there was no bar, they were seated promiscuously and went to classes and returned from the same without taboos. But there was no social intercourse, nor

passing hither and back in restricted quarters. There was a social hour after the evening meal and restrictions were raised, within certain limits, on the grounds. Saturday afternoons taboos were withdrawn and young people were granted social privileges on the campus. Then there were divisions into groups and couples. "Campus Lab" was the order, and on such occasions matches were made on the campus, not in heaven. Saturday afternoons, by the way, were signalized by the boys entering the Main by the front entrance, when at all other times they were obliged to enter by the side or back doors. Supervision over social conduct was exercised with rigid discipline, but not too much so, for it was vital to the welfare of the college.

Discipline within the college was enforced through a self governing system. Living quarters were divided into sections, boys and girls separately organized, and from each section were elected a captain and member of the council. Captains exercised police power and the council was a judiciary body. The accused, dissatisfied with the action of the council, had the right of appeal, the decision of the faculty being final. On one occasion a member of the junior class——haled before the council for a trivial offense appealed to the faculty for mitigation of his sentence. He fared worse before the faculty and drew a rebuke from the president who said: "If I were not the most generous of men, and felt like giving you a chance you are not entitled to, I would order you from this college this very hour." The accused could not see any grave import in his transaction, which

at worst was a "slip". As an upper classman he understood the equities. Without losing his temper, he responded, "I am not being treated justly. Were I not under self control I would lay you across my knee and spank your pants. I herewith withdraw from the college." It was years after when he returned. With his wife, a lovely member of a previous class of the I.S.A.C., he was returning to his home in a western state from Washington, where as a congressman, he had been attending the session just adjourned. He passed away in the belief that he was unjustly treated. His estate when probated ran into the higher brackets of six figures.

of years after its opening. Students had other activities which were quite as engaging and perhaps equally as profitable. In their out-of-class engagements they had plenty to do in the literary societies of which there were at least four. This afforded sufficient variety and students chose that which most suited their tastes. In the main the programs were similar, though some may have put more stress on this feature or that than others. Debate was stressed, for all aspired to proficiency in discussion and public speech. The programs included miscellaneous exercises, and development was attempted along forensic lines. The benefit derived was noticeable in the progress made by earnest society workers, and many attributed the proficiency attained at college to the work in literary society.

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more conducive to success in practical life; it is a moot question.

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The chapel was used as a place for assembling of the students. There the students gathered after classes were ever and listened to brief devotional services. Announcements of special and general nature were made. Then, after the evening meal, students commingled promiscuously. Then all distinctions of class, color, previous condition of servitude and mental bias disappeared. Discussion included every question, private and public, conversation knew no bounds, the sky was the limit. It was there that acquaintances were made and friendships formed that lasted through life.

The Main compared well with public buildings of the time, but in structure and material it lacked the substantial qualities of buildings of later date. Nor were its appointments as complete. It was heated by hot air which came from a furnace in the sub-basement, and the impossibility of heating a large building to the fifth story above was demonstrated every time a cold blast swept from the northwest. One part of the building would be too warm, and windows would be thrown open, while on the windward side it would be unfomfortably cold. The heating system became so intolerable that in time it was replaced by steam heat.

Light was furnished by gas generated from naphtha. The light was inferior to that furnished by kerosene lamp in the homes. There was insufficient compression and the lights

flickered and were unsteady. Incandescent mantels had not made their appearance and illumination by gas was far from present day efficiency.

Water was pumped from the spring north of the farm burns to a supply tank in the top story of the south wing, but was not well distributed throughout the quarters, which often caused congestion when too many appeared to fill their pitchers. Toilet facilities were maintained within the building, and when the pipes worked and equipment was in order, the system was sanitary. Bathing facilities were ample, for the kind. But they consisted of bowl and pitcher, available to every student occupying a room. Quite as good as most students had at home, for bathtubs were still strangers in private homes in Iowa. Nor is that a reflection on the college, or Iowa homes. About that time the president of the United States was urging congress to make an appropriation for improvements in the White House, and among the things urged were bathtubs and increased modern conveniences for the guests. Electric lights were installed along in the 80's when electricity was made practical for illuminating purposes.

The college had graduated a dozen classes or more before the advent of the telephone. Unmindful of a handicap of any kind, it forged ahead meeting each new responsibility with renewed resourcefulness. The telephone was unknown outside the laboratory where Edison and Bell were seeking to make it practical. It was only an expectation, a hope, and the world was

Communications with the departments were breadcast by messengerbey service, and for longer distances a miniature peny express service was maintained, similar somewhat to the vegue on the western planes in an early day: Cumbersome? Slow? Perhaps, but representative of the way things were done at the time.

Stenographer, typist, typewriters, dictagraphs and radios are innovations of later years. Typists were in the eradle, typewriters and kindred paraphernalia in confused experimentation in the inventors' studios, and yet the college progressed. Documents emanated from the offices in long hand, it was a time for the copyist and the messenger. The appearance of the typewriter had the effect of destroying permanship and degrading handwriting to the appearance of hen's tracks.

The college had its beginning in the days of the simple life. Individual experience was confined to a narrower range. The things that have since appeared were born of necessity, they meet new demands and serve in a more complicated, abundant life.

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## TYPHOID SCOURGE

The typhoid scourge that struck the students shortly after the opening of school, in October, 1900, was a severe test to the whole college organization. Starting on the new schedule of the previous year, changing the long vacation from winter to summer, with new arrangements for commencement in June, instead of November, with new schedules for classes, the management was running on full time in readjusting things for the new order. However, a fair start was made with the prospect of easy going ahead when this malady made its appearance among the students.

When the first case of typhoid was detected the patient was sent to the hospital with only casual attention, and perhaps a thought of locking into the cause in due time. But it was not long until another case developed and this was sent to the hospital in the same way. The third day, another case was brought to the physician's attention, then came a fourth, and a fifth, and another and another, till it was apparent that something was happening, and something out of the ordinary had to be done. Before a week had passed, fifteen nurses were in service and the scourge was spreading until more nurses were necessary. Nor could the available nurses meet demands of the increasing number of patients. The force had to be increased by volunteers from women of the faculty and such assistance as could be mustered from students and help from the offices.

The college hospital had not sufficient capacity to

deal with extraordinary demands, only for a few patients from time to time, and to provide quarters for victims of the accuracy, the two lower floors of Agricultural Ball were set uside for an emergency hospital. This improvised hospital was equipped with every appliance possible to assemble from the college community, from Ames downtown, and some furnishings were obtained by purchase from Des Hoines. Hany of the faculty ladies furnished articles, such as bedding and room equipment, from their own homes, and articles of food. During the weeks of illness and convalescence the aid of the college women was foremest in bringing back recovery. They catered to indifferent and failing appetites and in many ways brought back the spirit and determination to get well. Parents could have done no more for their youths than the faculty ladies who were constantly on hand caring for the sick.

Cf the forty-four students treated in the emergency hospital, two died. Parents in every case were not content to leave their sons to be cared for by the college, and twenty-two of the affected were taken home for treatment. The fact that four of those taken home succumbed to the ailment would seem to indicate that patients under college treatment were better cared for. They had expert attention and better facilities were at hand.

The source of the scourge was traced to the food served in the college dining hall. All students affected were regular dining hall boarders. Investigation disclosed that milk, obtained

from farmers in the neighborhood, was infected. One briley who sold milk to the college washed his cans with water from a well which was richly infected with typhoid germs, and through the milk he supplied, the food in the dining room was tainted.

It is needless to state that after the unfortunate occurrence milk was duly inspected before being used in any department of the college. Laws were passed for the tuberculin test of cows and for inspection of milk before it could be sold in cities and towns. For milk, it was found, was one of the principal sources of certain ailments.

College authorities were commended for the manner in which the scourge was dealt with. While the loss of six young lives was most unfortunate, the affected students and their parents felt that the college had exercised the utmost care and discharged every reasonable obligation throughout the trying ordeal. The feeling of the students who survived may be judged by the fact that practically all returned to finish their course, with their classes.

One phase of the incident that caused the authorities embarrassment was the debt created. During the trying weeks it was necessary to call in medical aid, to hire a number of nurses from outside, to buy hospital supplies and make numcrous miscellaneous expenditures to meet unexpected requirements. All told the expenses amounted to something near \$10,000. To pay this amount there was no fund available, and no source of revenue. State funds appropriated for college support may not be used for

support of students, either for their maintenace or providing for emergency needs. Student funds were separate and apart, and came from charges made against the students for services and supplies furnished in the ordinary processes of living within the college and attending the classes. It was thought the legislature would not make a special appropriation, if requested, because of the absence of any legal obligation of the college to care for the sick students. But the obligation was made with the assumption that somebody would pay. The board of trustees tackled the task by revising the system by which student finances had been managed. One thing, whereas room rent up to that time had been merely nominal, a rate was levied on dormitories based on what the dormitories were worth as compared to what students would have to pay if they attended other institutions. A price was fixed, after investigation, which was considered just, a rate that students accepted as reasonable. Another thing. Since the state required no tuition, new fees were added, and those already in effect were increased. Under the revision the student fund was perceptably increased, and in the course of time accumulations were sufficient to pay off the hospital debt.

There was not entire agreement on the ethics of requiring students who came after to pay for obligations created on behalf of their predecessors. They were in nowise beneficiaries, nor were they responsible for the misfortune of others whose indebtedness they were obliged to contribute to. But faced with

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a debt of several thousand dollars and with no other source on which to draw, such course was adopted with willingness to leave its morality for future casuists to pass upon. However, the logic of a system that permitted obligations to rise against the college with no resource to meet those obligations showed an absurdity to be avoided in the future. The boarding department which was administered by the board of trustees was subject to the same entanglement, and any time a debt might be created with no fund upon which to draw. Future students would thereby be mulcted to make good the deficiency, to pay for something they did not receive. Again, another reason was presented why the college should get out of the boarding business, and when the question came up subsequently the typhoid debt furnished a forceful argument.

It is interesting to know the result of efforts made to induce parents of the sick students to help meet the debt. President Beardshear sent out letters setting forth the situation: an indebtedness of nearly \$10,000 with no available state fund and no source from which to draw. In view of the efforts of the college and people on the campus to nurse the patients through the dreadful ordeal, would the parents, the fathers and mothers of the boys who were saved, contribute something to pay the debt created? Only two remittances came, one for \$20 and another for \$10. Most of the recipients made reply of some sort. One or two expressed heartfelt appreciation, but failed to enclose any material evidence of gratitude. Human nature in its manifold

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Most an indebtenance of nearly \$10,000 with its evaluable atoms of the actual treatment of the climates and the actual treatment of the climates and contract of the patients and contract of the boys who were seven, contribute accepting to pay the test of the contribute accepting to pay the contract of the contribute accepting to pay the contract of the contribute accepting to pay and contract of the contribute accepting to the contract of the contribute of the contract of the contribute of the contribute of the contract of the

manifestations was revealed in a variety of reactions. grateful father wrote that he was thinking of suing the state for ruining his son's health, that he had sent a perfectly healthful boy to college and received back a diseased, weak, frail, run down creature in return. He believed that he was entitled to damage. (Was it possible that he did not have in mind a work animal of a different kind?) The consensus was that the college, having made the boys sick by giving them infected milk, ought to make good all debts and obligations incurred. scolded and found fault with something or other that was done, or not done. The whole thing revealed human nature as decidedly selfish and many appreciative parents only slightly acquainted with the precepts of the golden rule. Had the president's letter been an appeal to help out expense incurred in treating infected animals on the farms the response might have been more generous. Human nature is that way very often.

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## BOARDING DEPARTMENT

essential as the class rooms, places of assembly and the dormitories. When the Iowa State College started in the autumn of 1868 there were 13 colleges in Iowa, for the most part in small towns, where the facilities for caring for students were limited. In consequence, the buildings were provided with living quarters where dormitories and boarding were provided. Students were urged to avail themselves of a home in the college and the advantages of sharing the life of the larger school family were dwelt upon. Contact with the faculty and association with maturer men and women were regarded as privileges worth seeking. Living under one roof brought together faculty and student body in a way that affected their lives and made permanent impression.

In commingling a measure of home life was preserved, class differences were leveled, intimacies formed and friendships begun that lasted through all subsequent years. Contact with faculty members inspired youth and stimulated ambition. Influences imparted by those devoted members of the faculty had large part in the accomplishments of students after leaving school.

The distances existing between students and the faculty, the remoteness imposed by modern conditions, marks one of the sacrifices made to growth and progress. Ordinarily there is little contact between student and teacher, the personal element having no place in the processes of the larger institutions. Students have no opportunity to absorb the spirit of persons of marked scholarship and character whose personality can reach them

only from a distance. Small colleges where personal contact and personal attention were of daily occurrence, had a value of their 'own, and exerted their own peculiar influence.

The boarding department differed from the educational departments, it being set apart and conducted as a business undertaking. A fund was provided at the beginning to be used in its operation as a revolving fund, always to be maintained to facilitate the business, but never to be paid out to make deficits good. The plan was to charge student patrons for service and supplies and upkeep. There was no state fund to be used in this connection, and charges were made to maintain it without running in debt. At the beginning the quarters were arranged according to the best modern standards, nothing was left out in the way of equipment and furnishings. Everything was strictly up to date.

The steward recognized the importance of keeping down expenses, purchase of supplies was made with care, and economy was exercised in the administration of the department. The food, it was recognized, must be well cooked, wholesome and of sufficient quantity. A well equipped bakery was maintained and bread and bakery products were home made. A competent cook prepared the meats and vegetables. The menu differed from time to time as conditions in the market varied. Usually, however, there were plenty of the staples on the table for all meals. Eread, meats, vegetables, fruits in season and specialties, in the line of sauces, and sweets occasionally. Coffee, tea, and milk were served regularly. Canning of fruits and vegetables is a

development of comparatively recent years. Previous to the canning age, fruits in order to be preserved were dried and carried over, to be consumed when fresh products were not available. Vegetables were seasonable, and when they ran out the table supply was that much slimmer. The same was true of small fruits, and apples and yield of the vines, pumpkins, cucumbers, melons and squashes. These dried articles when stewed commanded respect when made into pies and sauces. Hence the abounding presence of prunes, apple and berry pies, also from the dried products, especially when vegetables were scarce. In the days ante-dating the canning industry, fresh fruits and vegetables were to be had only part of the time. Then more than now it was necessary to run on lower schedules, and appetites had to be adjusted accordingly. But that was not peculiar to college conditions. Homes from which students came experienced the same trouble. How often was mother driven to distraction over "what to have for the next meal?" because there was simply nothing in the market that the family cared for.

When the time came that was necessary to reduce the menu, when fresh things could not be procured in the market, most students, understanding the situation, made the best of it. But there were others not so well disposed. Their appetites blinded them to other things and drove them to extreme and ridiculous complaints. Because the trimmings were reduced, and the bill of fare included only the staples, they found fault with the cooking and the service in the dining hall. Assertedly, the bread was only partially baked, the meats were underdone or overdone, butter

rancid, there were hairs in the hash, the milk was sour or diluted with water, and most of the time the quantity of food was insufficient. These complaints, written home, found their way to the columns of the local paper, and the college was in many quarters known better through asserted atrocities of the boarding department than the merits of instruction in its curricular accomplishments.

The irony of it all. The department was maintained for the benefit of the students, and though it gave more trouble and annoyance than the rest of the institution, causing more headaches to the management than all the instructional forces, it was the brunt of perennial attack. Complaints from year to year differed very little. About the same percentage of the student body made trouble about what they had to eat, how it was served and how health was menaced. Worst of all, they were not getting their money's worth, were cheated by the institution. About the same percent told the same tale of woe, in practically the same old way, and sulked and pouted before the authorities as did their predecessors. The authorities had learned how to deal with incidents running true to form, and to the limit of possibility attempted to prevent cause for complaint. There is no preventive for neurotics or temperament gone haywire, such as comes from ravenous, unreasoning appetites.

After all there is a difference between food cooked in large quantities and that prepared in small batches for the average family. Fare in hotels, cafes and eating houses lacks much of coming up to the requirements of the home table.

Inducements they hold forth of "home cooking" are impossible of fulfillment. They can not reach the standard of mother's cooking, where the tastes of individuals may be considered and catered to.

Mother aims to meet approval in the use of flavors, condiments and degree of cooking, and with an intuitive sense of individual tastes, usually approximates the composite appetite of the family. This inherent difference between mother's cooking and the product of the college refectory is a fact that never downs.

Nor can the service be reduced to the same standard.

Mother's cooking, coming hot from the griddle, warm from the steamer, sizzling and fresh from the frying pan, was appetizing, delightful to the sight and stirring to the imagination. How different it is where waiters must start in line to get supplies from serving tables, then must trail across the dining room to distribute their loads while flavors and freshness vanish.

As a class, the students who made trouble failed to discriminate, perhaps did not know the difference in their new environments, hence failed to make the necessary adjustment. Such a lesson they were sure to learn further on.

In the processes of development the college outgrew its swaddling clothes. It became able to cast aside outgrown and threadbare garments and take step with others, advancing along progressive paths. A series of events occurred that had the effect in the aggregate of putting the boarding department out of the business. Its presence among the modern innovations appeared out of place and, imperceptably, it was crowded out.

The fires that destroyed Old Main reduced the number of

dormitories, and students sought domicile outside the campus. About this time the land southwest of the college was platted and lots were purchased by residents of different parts of the state desiring to move to Ames to send their youths to college. In building their houses they provided for extra rooms to rent to students, thereby helping out the family budget. When the attendance increased and crowded quarters appeared in the offing, students formed groups, or clubs, and erected a number of large rooming and boarding houses, in the same college community. These student groups were variously known through Greek nomenclature, though they made no pretention of belonging to national fraternities. Coincident with this period of development came the fratermities which had been tabooed for more than a decade and a half, and a number of creditable fraternity homes were erected. Indeed, it was the lack of facilities to accommodate the increasing attendance of students that first prompted recall of the banished fraternities. The strictly fraternity spirit, desire to foster the organizations as part of school life, may have had a cummulative influence in the first instance. But, fundamentally, invitation for their return from exil was based upon the necessity of additional room for taking care of additional It is to be doubted whether President Storms would have students. felt justified in trying to revert Beardshear's policy of exclusion, nor might he have won the support of the board of trustees had not material conditions been made an important factor in its decision. It is problematic what the effect on the college had the Beardshear . policy of exclusion prevail through subsequent years. It is and will continue a mooted question.

But there were other causes in operation to drive the boarding department out of business. The typhoid scourge of 1900 cost the department more than \$10,000 in doctor bills, nurse and other services, with supplies and incidentals. There was no state fund from which to draw, and parents of the sixty-odd students affected refused to bear any portion of the expense. Many took the curious stand, that since the college gave the young people the food that caused the typhoid, the college may pay the bills. It required some ingenious financing, in the way of increasing rates and finding new sources of revenue, but in the course of several years the debt was paid. But the authorities decided that the department had no place in college administration, and had to be helped out of business on every occasion and opportunity. The typhoid debt was at times very embarrassing, and fear was felt that the legislature must be appealed to for a special appropriation. Happily the problem was solved by the board without outside aid.

The improvement of transportation between the college and the town of Ames opened the way to unlimited facilities for caring for students, making less and less patronage for the boarding hall. There were very few complaints when the college went out of the boarding business. Both students and the authorities enjoyed the greater freedom and were satisfied with the new order.

The fraternity and club houses experienced no such trouble from the neurotic kickers, because they were part of the management and felt a degree of loyalty to their own interests. Besides being a unit in the organizations, they felt a degree of

responsibility. In a measure they would have been kicking up a row in their own household.

The boarding department, essential in the beginning, never became part of the educational system. The effect of educational development was a departure from the primitive accounterments of material surroundings.

It was not necessary at the start to differentiate between the buildings and the spiritual life of the college. Really what constituted the college, the building or the organization, the institutionalized spirit and soul that dominate and control in this thing we know as education? These material surroundings have little to do in directing youths to the larger life. But the men and women who foster this soul and spirit and inspire higher aims and new thought in the mind of young people under their tutelage constitute our ideal of the college. Material surroundings were only incidental in the great undertaking, education of youth. They are temporary, the real college is eternal.

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## PICNIC EXCURSIONS

Excursions brought to the campus over the railroads in the early years of the 1900's were designed to get people acquainted with the college and the work it was doing. They did more to advertise the college than anything ever before attempted. Furthermore, they were the largest and best excursions undertaken in the state on any occasion, at any time. On such occasions from 10,000 to 12,000 persons from different parts of the state were present, annually, to get acquainted, visit and spend the day seeing the sights, while enjoying an old fashioned picnic.

From early years the college grounds were popular for picnics, and families and neighborhood groups came hither to enjoy outings and share the hospitality always to be found with college men and women. Sunday schools, farm organizations and other groups used to set aside days for picnics on the campus, where hospitality was ever present and outdoor attractions were incomparable.

Authorities felt that there was something more than ordinary in what they had to offer a picnic-minded people. The motive involved was advertising the institution, publicity, and the picnic idea was adopted as the most practical means of reaching the general public. It was first put into practice at Guelph, Ontario, where so many things in agriculture and stock breeding have been pionocred. The railroads and authorities of the Guelph Institution had worked out the enterprise and put it into operation

with most gratifying results. Excursions brought in from all parts of the province were popular and the institution was visibly benefited. Professor Curtiss, after inspecting the situation returned with a favorable impression and recommended the plan to President Beardshear, who gave it ready indorsement. The next step was to secure the cooperation of the railroads. The Northwestern road has never failed to come forward when opportunity was presented to do anything for the Iowa State College and its cooperation was immediately assured. It offered to arrange its schedules for the excursions, to give other lines the facilities of its tracks in the yards at Ames and to help along the enterprise in every way possible. Captain Merry, head of the Illinois Central passenger traffic in the state, took a leading part in securing cooperation of other roads that had to reach the college over Northwestern lines. Low rates were given and the expense of reaching Ames on such occasions was but slight and nothing interfered to make the excursions successful. With the railroads working through personal solicitation and the distribution of printed matter, and the people picnic-minded, it was not difficult to interest thousands to join the crowds for The crowd present on the first occasion was estimated between 10,000 and 12,000. Trains that filled the yards at Ames arrived between 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and from then till noon the ways to the college were crowded with pedestrians, for there being no automobiles then, transportation facilities were limited. The story is told of a farmer living in the college vicinity who, after selling a load of hay, left

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charge of a dime, hauled scores to the campus. For the day's work he received more than the price of the hay he had sold.

Others observing his success were on hand next year with better equipment, but competition had come from busses, hacks and carryalls from other towns, and farm vehicles were not so successful.

There was a distressing lack of food the first year.

Hotel and restaurant keepers were skeptical and failed to prepare
for extraordinary demand, though urged by college authorities to
have extra supplies on hand. The domestic science department put
forth special effort and fed many, while the homes on the campus
and in the community were busy in supplying the demand. The
crowd the following year was well taken care of.

Ample arrangements were made on the grounds to entertain everybody. Tents were erected with room enough to accommodate a two-ring circus, seats were provided for several thousand and a platform erected for speakers, glee clubs and bands, all liberally decorated with American flags. State officials, farm leaders from different sections and ever present politicians occupied the platform and entertained the multitude and hawkers for red lemonade and vendors of toy balloons, crackerjack and popcorn added to the variety of sound and sight. Friends met friends from other parts and new acquaintances were formed as the day wore on. Students were so organized that the departments were shown to the visitors with a minimum of effort, questions were answered, when answerable, and a fair knowledge of the institution was obtained.

The closing event of the day was the procession around

the campus of the livestock and farm equipment of the agricultural department. The livestock included animals that had wen prizes at state fairs and expositions in Mansas City and Chicago, some of the best known horses and cattle in the livestock world. Eight horse teams, made up of the finest stallions and brood mares in the state, hitched up with the best millinery of the harness makers' craft, with shining brass, ornamented with ivory rings, drawing one of the best makes of farm wagons, was a show worth the price of admission. Up-to-date farm machinery indicated the completeness of equipment on the college farm. It was a fitting close to a day of interesting experiences and the picnickers returned to their trains satisfied though tired.

The day had its social value. People from different parts commingled and made new acquaintances, saw where their young people attended college and how they spent their months away from home. The institution was seen at close range and became known at first hand. When they returned home they could talk with their neighbors understandingly, and passed along the impressions they had gained.

The campus presented a ragged appearance in the evening after departure of the crowds. With scraps of paper thrown from dinner baskets, chicken bones, bread scraps, wrappers from candy boxes and sundry cartons and refuse it looked like waste and confusion, giving evidence of enjoyment unconfined.

But there was something else to the picnic, the evening hang-over of the daytime program. A banquet in one of the public rooms was participated in by authorities of the college, speakers

of the day and distinguished guests, sure to include politicians of the state. Events of the day just closed, matters of general interest and current politics were discussed, and the evening was spent in a feast of reason and flow of soul. This banquet after the first excursion furnished an amusing finale. President Beardshear was more than usually happy as toastmaster and the program was set for a lively interchange of wits. Such distinguished speakers as Uncle Henry Wallace, Lafayette Young, Joe Trigg, Colonel Joseph Eiboeck were on the list. Speaking was to be finished by 9:45 for the train was to leave Ames at 10:30, so the Des Moines contingent had to leave the college a half hour earlier. When Colonel Eiboeck, editor of a German language newspaper in Des Moines, was called there was an hour and a quarter left of the time, and in order to leave time for Uncle Henry Wallace and others to follow, he would have to make it snappy. But that is what he did not do. The state campaign was in progress and the colonel as an opponent of prohibition was valliantly defending personal liberty. He was full of his subject and nearly full of something else, and his language abounded in picturesque epithets about "prohibition cranks", temperance fanatics, oppressive sumptuary laws and puritanic hypocrisy. Uncle Henry was primed for shots from the opposite ranks and might have told what he thought of John Barleycorn and his rum demons, and while he waited for his turn, Eiboeck seemed to be getting more and more enthused by his own eloquence. Personal liberty came in for more defense and "prohibition" suffered more and more destructive attack. There seemed no end to his

denunciation of cranks, bigots and fanatics, all of whom were on the side of "prohibition". Uncle Henry was to follow and if the defender of personal liberty did not soon quit, train time would arrive and the speech would perish on his chest, never to reach sound or light. He faced Eiboeck and flashed in his face a \$150 gold watch that indicated only fifteen minutes speaking time remaining. But the colonel talked on; there were still other things to be said in behalf of personal liberty, and one's right to drink. Uncle Henry snapped the cases of his shining chronometer and pointed to the immobile face of the clock on the wall whose hand advanced with ruthless steadiness. And still the German editor kept up his attack on "prohibition". Uncle Henry was holding his watch before the interminable speaker when Hank Wilkinson appeared and announced the last'dinky'car for Ames to meet the Northwestern for Des Moines. And there stood the Editor of Wallaces' Farmer with his speech on better farming, better politics and better lives smothered by Eiboeck's mass attack on "prohibition" which he regarded as the curse of the century. Dr. Wallace, be it said, always had something to say worth listening to.

The excursion picnics were continued until legislation was enacted that interfered with special rates which were a necessary feature. Under provisions of the new legislation the roads were not permitted to grant reduction in such a way as to make excursions practicable. Efforts were made in subsequent years to revive the picnics in some form and some way that might admit of participation of the railroads, but the enterprise never ap-

peared to be feasible. However, the excursions have a place in the history of incidents that contributed to the develop-ment of the college.

## STORM AND HIS ELECTION

Election of a president to succeed Beardshear, whose death followed a brief illness in 1902, was properly regarded by the board of trustees as of supreme importance, one of the most important events in the history of the college. The president had been taken away in the midst of his usefulness, with his work planned but lacking execution and there was one who knew his objectives. His successor, it was realized, faced a problem difficult to solve, for the factors involved seemed indeterminate. The measure of the man to succeed him was realized only through knowledge of the magnitude of the undertaking.

Beardshear was a man of national prominence and educational leaders were interested in his work in the Iowa field. Nominations for his successor came from many of the leading institutions and institutional heads took a personal interest in making the choice. There was no lack of candidates, eligible and well qualified, and by the time action was taken to fill the vacancy the roster included the names of many distinguished educators. In order to qualify for action in a matter of such importance the board decided to take a year for consideration. Prof. E. W. Stanton, who had served as president during more than one interim was made acting president for the year and affairs of the college progressed without incident. Applications were filed as they were received and from time to time given due attention. On different occasions committees of the board visited institutions to ascertain by personal observation the work and qualifications

of applicants. On one occasion the chairman and other trustees made a trip to a western state, where the president of its university was given special praise by Columbia University, New The man whose fitness was given this special recommendation was eminently qualified in many ways, but was lacking in others. In the first place, he was a bachelor and declared he would not surrender single blessedness for the presidency of any college. He liked a good brand of cigars, and assured the committee that his breath might be tested with safety, on campus hours. If his politics were questioned he wanted the committee to inform their board that they did not know what party he belonged to. He was a handsome man, in his forties, preeminently intellectual and commanding in appearance. He was dubious about what he called the Iowa mind and showed no anxiety to show himself before the board. He was called soon thereafter to a larger institution, and his career justified the recommendation Columbia had given. president of another institution was interviewed on the same trip. He needed no coaxing to induce him to show himself for inspection before the board at Ames. He appeared at an early date and was interviewed by the members in session. And it was his presence that changed the entire situation and turned the choice toward a home man. One effect of this man's trip to Ames was to impress his board with fear of losing him, and his salary was increased \$2000. But he was not the only applicant to appear before the board. There were many, but none stood out as worthy of the Beardshear succession. The president of the

university out west was outstanding, but his attitude toward standards prevailing in Iowa barred any approach toward his election. The sense prevailed that he would not fit into the Iowa situation, regardless of outstanding qualifications.

Gradually, and without effort to organize the changing sentiment, the trustees lost confidence in the list of candidates, neither those who appeared in person nor those who filed applications and were fortified with friendly endorsements, inspired interest. Beardshear was the standard and none of them could attain it. Imperceptably a change came over the situation, a change that affected not only the trustees but friends of the college everywhere, as well as the faculty and college community. In a nutshell, a demand rose for the election of a "home man". Were there not at least two men in the faculty able and fully qualified to be president? Professor E. W. Stanton because of his long connection with the college, his experience as acting president on more than one occasion, and the efficiency he disclosed in the present instance. Could any man brought in from outside give comparable service? But there was another man in the faculty equally able and fit for the presidency. Professor Charles F. Curtiss, head of the agricultural department and director of the experiment station. In the prime of middle life, raised as a boy within sight of the college, and as student, assistant professor and head of the department, had acquired an acquaintance among the farmers of the state, and was so closely associated with farm organizations that they all knew him. He was an alumnus and had many friends among former students. While both

Stanton and Custiss observed the proprieties and counseled moderation, their followers indulged in heated controversy. The alumni for the most part made Stanton's cause their own and by propaganda and personal solicitation brought all possible pressure to bear. They affected to see in Curtiss's election the transformation of the college into an agricultural school, and the curtailment of scholastic instruction. On the other hand, leading farmers and agricultural organizations resolved against Stanton's election, and predicted that under his administration the school would be reduced to primary undertakings in agriculture. As the campaign progressed feelings intensified beyond all reason, with threats from both sides of fights in the legislature against appropriations for improvement and support.

The board of thirteen members was divided, it was presumed, seven for Stanton and six for Curtiss. A few days before election was to be held a member, counted for Stanton, let it be known that he must not be counted on, for he believed the opposition to the acting president was too formidable, and that his election would result in the antagonism of the agricultural classes, and the college could not prosper without their support. That left the vote six for Stanton and six for Curtiss. Governor Cummins, a Curtiss supporter, then nominated Craig, recent president of Drake university, but met with no encouragement. Into the tense situation Richard C. Barrett, state superintendent of public instruction, tossed a bomb. "Why," said Barrett, "don't

you elect my preacher?" Who is your preacher, asked a half dozen trustees. Who is he and what does he know about our college?

Barrett was pleased to explain. His preacher was Dr. A. B. Storms, pastor of the First Methodist church, Des Moines, and didn't they remember the prayer made before the Republican state convention a few days previous? The prayer, be it stated, was the subject of comment, as it was declared the best address delivered in the convention. Yes, they remembered the prayer, that matchless voice, sonorous, resonant, volumnous and musical. Who could forget it? Barrett's preacher was the leading Protestant preacher in the capital city, who by his voice and striking personality had made the convention take notice, was accepted as worthy of consideration. Then followed the inevitable committee to investigate and report. It is necessary only to say that after due deliberation the board was ready to vote.

Savery Hotel, Des Moines, and it was not without its dramatic aspect. Most of the members were glum over the failure of their favorites to score in a race in which there was so much at stake. The choice to be made was to be a compromise and as friends of the college they hoped for the best. Two of Stanton's supporters were in tears, one expressed himself as sorely grieved, as he feared this was the last chance for his cherished friend to reach the presidency. And when the vote was taken he cast his ballot for his friend, thus depriving Storms of unanimous election.

President Storms entered his duties under no illusion. He appreciated the grave responsibilities he had assumed and the necessity of acquainting himself with their numerous details. It was not enough that he take up the work where his predecessor left off, he must have constructive ideas of his own and lead along new paths. Beardshear policies may have been sound, and safe guides as long as conditions continued unchanged. Their adoption would assure progresss if things remained the same as in Beardshear's time.

But there was the rub. The early years of the 1900's were a period of transition in industrial education. Change was the order of the day in industry as well as education. New type buildings were constructed in industrial centers, modern structures replaced old types of bridges, cities and towns installed waterworks and sewer systems, highway improvement had started, and other projects appeared, all requiring engineers and men trained in the industrial sciences. The same transition took place in agricultural industry and mechanical arts. Iowa, reflecting a situation existing in many states in the middle west, began to take notice of its highways and make plans to pull itself out of the mud. The good roads movement was brought to notice, agriculture was coming into its own and became a subject for applied science, with engineers, chemists, bacteriologists and botanists giving expert attention. The foregoing is but a mere cutline of what was taking place in the state and nation, but it gives an idea of the changes in progress.

The Iowa State College as a technical and industrial college was looked to for leadership. Its chief mission was training persons to perform the work and manage the enterprises then in progress. Where else could specialists be trained so well to study soils, crops, plant life, feed and food values, home and farm economics, live stock feeding and breeding, poultry and related interests in agriculture than at the college? Wasn't that the object for which the institution was founded?

But that was not all. The processes by which improvements were made were themselves subjects for demonstration. It was not necessary only to furnish leadership in operation of various undertakings, it was necessary to show how the practical work was performed. The scientist often had to lay aside the transit, test tube or microscope and show the layman how to make use of the scientist's finding.

All of which added to the extent of the field in which the college operated, and required departure from what might be designated Beardshear policies, just as the late president himself might have blazed new trails.

Transition, in progress during those years, made necessary almost constant revision in department programs, for new demands could not be met with old methods. Coordination among the departments had to be maintained and this called for effective supervision. Meanwhile the attendance kept increasing. There is a limit beyond which competent instruction cannot be given. When classes became too large it was necessary to provide more room, for seating capacity also has its limits. And with increase in

the number of classes came requests for more instructors.

Then came the hardest nut the authorities had to crack, and that was to procure from the legislature appropriations for new buildings. Following the line of duty, it was but a formal matter to present the needs and request an appropriation for the desired buildings. Members of the legislature always gave respectful hearing but there was not always agreement about the necessity, or desirability, of granting the request. Many of them came from districts insistent on tax reduction and were pledged to curtailment of current rates. The atmosphere must be clarified before they could see the new light, and vote against pledges for reform they had made to their constituents. The president with his aides appearing before a legislative committee usually had to plead, argue and explain as if his client's life depended upon the winning of his case.

This brings to mind an experience of "Tama" Jim Wilson when a member of the faculty, head of the department of agriculture. He appeared several times before the appropriation committee which was considering the request for a creamery building. In cramped quarters and with limited facilities the creamery division had made cheese of such high quality that it brought several cents more a pound on the Chicago and New York market than any other brand. Butter from the same source had gained similar prestige on the market. The committee met several times in its room in the capitol without recommending the item for the Ames creamery; something blocked the way. Professor Wilson had had experience

in the legislature and in congress and thought he understood the psychology of statesmanship. He decided to try new tactics, and prepared to make every horse in the team "stiffen his tugs." One day before leaving for the capitol to meet the committee, he prepared a box filled with college cheese, college butter and a jug filled with fresh buttermilk. A supply of bread and cookies furnished by the college steward was the last item added to "Tama" Jim's lunch basket.

That afternoon the man who was to be secretary of agriculture for 11 years in the cabinets of three presidents appeared before the committee. Placing the "lunch basket" on the table he invited the members to sample the creamery products, and invited them to "help themselves." What followed was never entered of record. Did he get his appropriation? The ensuing summer the creamery, modern in every appointment, was erected, and though outgrown several times over, it is a credit to the pioneers of the department.

During the years following Dr. Storms' installation the attendance continued to increase, and because of the complexity of problems affecting the country's development, management of the Iowa State College brought more intricate ones to solve. The legislature was more generous and made liberal appropriations for new buildings. There were matters incidental to the forward march of events that required more than casual attention, and took much time of the executive head. For instance, the addition of new buildings brought major attention to the outlines and appearance of the campus. The future college, enlarged and occupying

grounds beyond the original campus, was envisiged and plans laid for probable development. The appearance of the campus of the future required forethought and study. Incidentally, this was no slight matter.

President Storms placed stress on the relation of the alumni to the alma mater. He believed that the welfare of the institution was largely in their hands and that their loyalty should be kept alive and active. He was an active member of the Ann Arbor alumni and had a desire to promote the interests of the Ames graduates and former students. The alumni body, he believed, would be brought closer together in fraternal relationship if they had an organ for mutual expression, that might touch upon matters of common interest. A periodical, published regularly, monthly 'preferably, would infuse new life into the organization and create an alumnal consciousness that would be a vital force in matters pertaining to the college. Accordingly, a meeting was held in the president's office at which appeared, besides the president, J. B. Hungerford, president of the board of trustees, Judge J. S. Dewell of Missouri Valley, and A. U. Quint of Des Moines. A decision was reached to proceed at once with a monthly publication, to be published under the auspices of the local alumni, President Storms to arrange the preliminaries and to take whatever steps were necessary to secure the regular appearance of the publication. The name of the new publication, the "Alumnus", first suggested by Dr. Storms, was heartily approved by the other members of the committee. It appeared according to arrangements, and the "Alumnus" was heartily received from the start. The faculty,

and through its entire career it has been a helpful means of keeping together the college, and the increasing phalanx of alumni and former students. From a humble beginning, it has been an organ of usefulness and has accomplished much good. With its present form, edited and conducted along high standards, it is a credit to the college and an honor to its founders.

There is much in the accomplishment of Dr. Storms' regime that was never entered of record. No faculty records or recorded proceedings of the board of trustees make mention of a large share of his activities. His wonderful energy and expansive brain extended beyond the formal and the routine, and had to do with the cumulative and the pertinent. It was his lot to lay the substructure, make the foundation secure and safe for the superstructure. There was an absence of estentation in the work he performed, the spectacular was reserved for subsequent years. Storms in laying the foundations, wrought in the shade where the glint of genius did not shine. Those who shape the column and lay the capstone generally win the glory.

## STUDENT MANUAL LABOR

Manual labor had a place in the curriculum when the college first opened its doors. Credits for completion of the course were as essential as in mathematics or one of the sciences. Two hours a day were required in winter and three manual attention was necessary to "make up" to get passing grades. Our lower institution was not alone in this respect. Wherever land grant colleges were started manual labor was included in the course of study. Back of the movement to establish technical schools was the thought of placing manual labor beside the

cultural studies and including it in the instruction to be

given.

Higher education of the period was dominantly classical, and in the presence of rapid increase in material development prevailing standards failed to meet popular requirements. Classical education had failed to make good and there was a revulsion. Denominational colleges turned out men and women highly educated and the professions were well provided for. The facilities for scholarly attainment were never better. The attitude toward higher education of the times was expressed by an early governor, one of the most thoughtful men in our history. Raised on a New Ingland farm, and acquiring his education in an eastern denominational school, he came west and after a successful career became governor and finally United States senator, influential and distinguished during the Civil

War period. As a prime mover for establishment of the agricultural college he insisted on including manual labor in the course of study. \ His experience taught him, he insisted, that manual labor would become creditable and respectable with the professions if given proper recognition in the educational scheme. There were others, however, who favored manual labor with equal zeal for less altruistic reasons. A certain amount of physical exertion, taken in connection with brain work, would conduce to the vigor of the mind and body and benefit students mentally and physically. As a tonic manual labor would bring results that the mental classic never touched. \ Another aspect appealed to a class who believed manual labor, any kind of labor, opened a way for students to earn something to help them through school. By providing work for industrious youths many would be able to acquire a college education who otherwise would be deprived of the advantage.

Various reasons were advanced by the founders for making the experiment, which was to extend through 15 years of trial and then be abandoned.

Conditions could have been no more favorable. There was plenty to do at the new college, plenty for boys and girls. Students were boarded within the building and the entire work of caring for the numerous household fell upon the girl students. Household work, cooking, serving and upkeep furnished employment for them all. Home economics, or domestic science, had

not yet made its advent and the task of keeping the home in order was largely a duplication of duties at home.

Nor was opportunity wanting on the farm side to furnish all the work the boys could do. The college tract, with the exception of a small portion under cultivation, was primitive frontier wild land. Part was covered with a growth of timber, trees large enough to be split into rails or cut into saw logs. There was a large acreage of this with an undergrowth of saplings and underbrush of various height. Much of the open spaces were covered with bunch grass, clusters of bushes and the surface was bumpy with hummocks and water holes. As the land was cleared it had to be fenced and cross fenced for feed lots, pastures, and general purposes. In improving the campus there were surfaces to be changed, trees to be set out, alterations and improvements without number.

There was live stock to be cared for. Fine breeding animals required special attention, cows had to be milked, their quarters kept in condition and their feed carefully looked after. Work horses were fed and curried, harnesses were cleaned and oiled, vehicles and implements were kept in order becoming a state institution. There was always something to do and the danger of running out of work never appeared in the earlier years.

The attitude of students toward manual labor was not always favorable. While the necessity of complying with the requirement was recognized a majority complied with definite

protest. Much of the labor required of the students was unsuited to those unaccustomed to manual labor. Many a luckless youth felt used up after his work detail with blistered hands and lame back, with sore muscles and aching head. Such a condition had poor success in increasing one's respect for manual labor. Nor did the perfume from currying horses, milking cows and cleaning stables have a favorable effect when manual was placed in the balance with professional labor. Time was consumed in changing clothes for work in the fields or barns and the pittance received was poor compensation for the effort. Besides it was necessary to take a bath after outside work and much time was required to get back into condition for study or class room. Generally speaking manual labor was not popular and the longer students were in school the less they liked it. Principally because they were convinced that they could make better use of their time. They considered manual labor a diversion from the purpose for which they attended the school and the further they got the more apparent did the diversion become.

There were exceptions, however. Occasionally there were students who worked beyond the minimum and exceeded the requirement every month. One student tells how he used to put in extra hours in the farm department and each month have a balance coming after paying his expenses. He kept up his studies and graduated well toward the head of this class, with a balance to his account in the bank of \$600. Instances of such thrift and industry are rare, though he insists that others have made their way by manual labor.

expensive and inefficient. College authorities encountered difficulty in enforcing the labor requirement because of the reluctant attitude of the students. Very seldom did students take interest in their labor. It was performed perfunctorily, the chief object being to get by, not to do one's work well. More ingenuity was exercised in getting up excuses than in devising better ways to do the work. The result was deterioration of the morale and the formation of a subconscious dishonesty in the student mind.

Years of trial demonstrated manual labor, administered as a curricular study, wasteful and impractical. It had been a losing enterprise from the beginning, but because of certain educational aims was continued long after its futility became apparent. In 1884 the board, after being convinced beyond all doubt of its fallacy, dropped it from required "studies" and arranged for a logical approach to its inclusion in the educational scheme.

The plain fact is that manual labor as such is not long to be sought after. Of itself it is drudgery and is frought in the sweat of the fact and the hopelesness of the spirit.

Manual labor, separate and apart, neither lightens nor inspires.

It is hardship and drudgery together. But manual labor with a purpose beyond, performed that something else might be, is inspiring and points to reward and fruition. The founders who sought to give it dignity and to place it beside professional labor failed to breathe into their creation the breath of life.

Had they connected it with a purpose, something educative and creative, the end might have been attained. In a system of education, where the object was to escape manual labor or lighten its burden, its inclusion in the course of abody was quite illogical.

Manual labor has been made respectable and given the credibility of the professions, but only because the schools brought it into the laboratories and gave it life in combination with the brains of the engineer, the mechanic and the scientist. In the laboratories instruction has been given by doing what iss to be done. Associated with intelligent purpose manual labor carries the respectability and the credibility the founders sought to secure. But of itself it is without hope. Hewers of wood and drawers of water are doomed to the drudgery borne from the beginning. Toil is onerous and drudgery is still hopeless.

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## BUDD'S RUSSIAN FRUIT VENTURE

The importation of Russian fruit trees, apples, plums. cherries and pears, under the direction of Prof. J. L. Budd, head of the horticultural department, marked an epoch in fruit growing in Iowa that still persists, after the lapse of more than 50 years. Orchardists still refer to the "Russian Experiment" with no sense of satisfaction. The prevailing sentiment among them is that the development of fruit production in Iowa and the northwest was retarded for many years. The time and effort spent in experimentation with Russian varieties would, if properly employed, have saved 10 or 15 years in finding out what could be accomplished with home conditions. After the so called Russian experiment it was necessary to begin at the beginning, many still assert, and go through the processes that conservative growers contended for at the outset. However, there are those who insist that Prof. Budd was instrumental in improving conditions and that the experiment lacks much of being a failure.

Belief was entertained for many years by orchardists that climatic and soil conditions in Iowa and the northwest were suitable to fruit growing, provided hardy varieties were procured. How to obtain hardy varieties became a practical question. Prof. Budd was convinced that the object could be accomplished in shortest time and with surest results by importing from a country where similar climate prevailed and adopting similar means of treatment. A number of leading members of the horticultural society disagreed, the leader among them being the

late C. G. Patton of Charles City. He believed that it was possible to breed native varieties into hardiness and qualities suitable to resist the climate.

Prof. Budd referred to a number of varieties that had prospered after importation from abroad, citing the Duchess of Oldeberg, Alexander Topofesky and Red Astrakan. These had been first imported into England in 1835, then later into the United States. Later came the Yellow Transparent, direct to the United States, all becoming acclimatized and thrifty in their adopted country. Budd made such a strong presentation before the state society, of which he had been executive secretary for many years, that his contention was finally adopted, though the society nearly went to pieces as a result. He seemed to have a majority of the orchardists back of him, and the demand was for importations from Russia, where, it was shown, fruit was grown in sections where maximum and minimum climatic conditions comparable with Iowa and northwestern territory prevailed. Budd's ideas needed no further backing and his proposition was accepted by the majority.

Accordingly, Prof. Budd was given a leave of absence by the board of trustees, and a trip to Russia was financed, permitting him to make investigation and arrangement for the importation of such varieties as he believed would thrive in Iowa and the part of the northwest interested. He was joined by a Professor Gibb of Canada who was backed by his provincial government, and who had similar views as to the feasibility of importing kinds of fruit that would prosper in home conditions.

Europe and obtained a wide range of information. Investigation, they reported, presented conditions so similar to what prevailed at home there seemed no reason to doubt the practicability of adoption of the Russian varieties, in accordance with the Budd concept. His ideas were adopted by the department under his control and the influence of the college had much to do with the course of growers throughout the state. While Patton of Charles City and fellow dissenters continued to complain and express doubt, Budd had the satisfaction of seeing many young orchards set out, and the trees grew thriftily, and in season bloomed luxuriantly. So far, the Russian experiment was successful and the planting of orchards was stimulated.

While the trees grew, blossomed and bore fruit, success did not result. The fruit had to ripen and its flavor had to find acceptance. And herein appeared the difficulty and disappointment. Apples were large and of proper color, but lacked flavor and were unsuited for use, cooked or raw. Cherries and plums dropped from the stems before ripening, The few that remained on the stem to ripen were, like the apples, lacking in flavor, so were never accepted as favored articles for the table. Some years were required to convince Prof. Budd and his partisans that his importations from Russia were failures. But the time came when the growers actually destroyed their trees of Russian origin and planted native stock. While Budd was still trying to sustain his theory a large orchard, at the

southwest corner of the college ground, was pulled out and the ground was devoted to other purposes. That orchard for several years had born heavily and the trees were large and fine looking, but the fruit was absolutely valueless. Year after year the apples were permitted to remain on the trees, and what was left of them in the spring was removed with other rubbish. The same result followed with plums, cherries and pears. They would abort in the bloom, fall from the stam before developing, or be tasteless when ripe. All varieties were afflicted with common faults.

Prof. Budd never lost faith. He stood the assault of Iowa farmers who charged him with delaying the development of fruit culture all these years unmoved in his conviction. He insisted that sufficient time had not been given, that growers had failed to give the experiment a fair chance. He reached the end of his life with the conviction that his work was wrecked by impatience and lack of proper cooperation.

Prof. Lantz, assistant in the department of the Towa State College, is not inclined to regard the Budd experiment as a complete failure. The incident added to the knowledge of horticulture in the European countries, and especially in that vast territory comprising what was then known as Russia. While immediate results were disappointing, collateral and incidental results have helped fruit growers of the state, and the upper Mississippi region. A number of Russian varieties have actually become acclimatized and are adapted to the group not predominant in the northwest, including Iowa, Minnesota,

and Manitoba. He cites a number which had been adopted before and since the Budd exploitation. Some of them can trace their ancestry back to the Budd-Gibb liaison.

Russian trees are characterized by straight and sturdy growth, and breeders have made use of them by crossing with such varieties as Jonathan, Delicious, Grimes, and others which have naturally weaker stocks. Top breeding on those stranger stocks has resulted in sturdier trees and better results are obtained in fruit production in the severer climates. Evidence is not wanting to show benefits traceable to Budd's Russian incursion, but Prof. Lantz does not presume to express an appraisal of the incident.

Prof. Budd did not confine his attention to fruit trees. In his shipment from abroad fruit trees comprised the bulk of the invoice, but his selection of shrubs, flowering plants and ornamental trees were sufficient to make a sizable distribution throughout the state. The most conspicuous to be now remembered was his Russian olive. This tree became a favorite for ornament in the lawns and shade in the fields. It was readily adopted throughout the west and may yet be seen as far west as the Rocky Bountains, in the course of years. It was of rapid growth and did not attract insect pests, hence popular everywhere. But it was not a long lived tree and it is doubtful if it has held its own in later fields. Budd took satisfaction in its ready adoption. His "Rosa Regosa", a rose with loose and insufficient petals, was of thrifty growth and at an early age beautified the lawn, but lacked qualities for bouquets and was never fully adopted

into the home. Its place was out doors. Confidence placed upon it when first recommended to Iowa homes was not justified, somewhat to the disappointment of its sponsor. Other trees, shrubs and plants gradually joined their Russian ex-patriates, failed to make good, or win credit for the genius that transplanted then in unfriendly soil.

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## FRATERNITIES OUSTED BY BEARDSHEAR

President W. I. Chamberlain was the third man to try to compose a situation that was in ferment since the retirement of the first president. The task called for the efforts of a superman. No ordinary man could conciliate the factions and bring harmony to the contentious partisans. The ultimate test came when an impact between his administration and warring students engaged in an internecine conflict brought chaos to college government. Seven hectic years were to pass before the man with penetrating eye and iron fist was to take hold and restore the institution to a going concern. The superman did come and unraveled the tangled mesh.

The difficulties that flared to spectacular height in the episode with the fraternities were but symptoms of an unhealthy condition down deeper in the system. When the land grant colleges were created there was not entire agreement in regard to the purposes they should fulfill. There were two concepts, one that they should be devoted exclusively to the promotion of agriculture, and allied industries; the other that they should be more technical, and educational. This division, accumulating for years, led to the resignation of President Welch. Coincidental with this fundamental conflict were others that gathered along the way and attracted adherents. Some had personal reasons, others political, still others social, and another group was active because they liked controversy. The college atmosphere was impregnated with the controversial germ.

It rarely stimulates that spirit of peace and harmony that one reads about, the tendency of campus life being to keep things stirring, something doing all the while. Students get the infection and are averse to mere routine in college life.

It is doubtful if the Chamberlain administration would have lasted longer had there been no disturbance with the fraternities. The college community was divided into factions over important events that had taken place before his arrival. With hang-over headaches affecting the personnel of the college and campus, and with no disposition to conciliate differences, only on the basis of letting the old grudge stand, efforts to bring about a working harmony were obviously futile. A pathological condition existed and any disturbing incident was likely to provoke violent symptoms. It might come from the fraternities, or from any one of a half dozen other things.

There were two fraternities in the college when the culminating outbreaks took place. The Delta Tau Delta was installed in 1876 and from the beginning maintained a vigorous chapter. The same statement might be made in behalf of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority which was first known to the outer world as the "I. C."

The presence of fraternities where students were associated in close contact, in small quarters, did not contribute to increased amiability. There were no real reasons why frats and anti frats might not dwell together in harmony, but young people, and their elders are that way. The charge was made that the fraternity

members arrogated superiority, were a class apart, and snobbishly refrained from association with the common herd. They had the best that was going, even to the smiles of their teachers. Their attitude had the effect of rubbing the fur the wrong way and irritating the feeling of super-sensitive individuals. Strife ensued and made its presence felt in the class rooms, laboratories and social gatherings. Members of the fraternities were ultimately expelled from the literary societies and in order to have access to that very important feature of college life were obliged to start a society of their own. Outbreaks became so violent and frequent as to interfere with class and laboratory work, and by the time the authorities decided that a change in management was necessary to the welfare of the college, fracases of the fraternities made their presence intolerable.

The election of W. M. Beardshear, city superintendent of the Des Moines city schools, to the presidency was the challenge the authorities made to further disturbances. Beardshear was chosen after a wide search for a man of outstanding parts who could deal with the situation. When he took charge at the beginning of the school year, 1891, he was given full authority with the assurance that the entire power of the authorities was back of him in the enforcement of his policies. He proceeded as if it was all in a day's work and matters out of the ordinary would be dealt with as they came up. The fraternities, thought to be more pressing than anything else, were set apart for special consideration, and for this subject he stipulated a given time in which he would investigate and try to arrive at a

conclusion. When the period expired he called together all who could be in any way interested and before the assembly announced. the judgment he had arrived at. First and foremost, the fraternities were to be banished from the college. Their presence, under the circumstances, was inimical to the harmony of the student body and obstructive to progress in student work. However, permission was given for existing chapters to continue until present members left the college. In order that there might be no further additions, initiations in the future were taboo. With no replenishment the exhaustion of the supply would bring about extinction.

The fraternities continued to carry on, but hardly the same as before. The banned atmosphere chilled the spirit and created a strained consciousness, as if in defiance to discipline. However, a change came over the spirit of the Delta Tau Delta. Things were running more smoothly under the ban than had been anticipated, and the members were gripped anew with a desire to live and carry on as before. The notion was that the college had no authority to prescribe the fraternities and the Beardshear decision was illegal. It was an infringement on the personal rights of American citizens and therefore unenforcible. On that assumption the Delta Tau Delta proceeded to exercise its assumed rights, by the initiation of Orris Roberts, a student from Dunlap, Harrison county. The president proceeded to enforce discipline by expelling Roberts. His fraternity brothers decided to test the matter in court, and immediately made application for an

injunction, which was procured from the district court at Boone. By agreement the case was transferred to Des Moines, where it was tried before Judge Baliet, who took it under advisement. His decision was in favor of the college and the injunction was dissolved, Roberts' expulsion was given full approval and discipline was vindicated.

charles Ballreich, '91, a graduate of the college and a member of the fraternity during his student days, had charge of the case, and after deliberation advised the plaintiffs to drop further action and accept the verdict. The right of the college to make such rules for its government had been sustained by the district court and would very likely be affirmed in the supreme court. He rejected the advice of last-ditch fighters to go to the legislature for relief, and in compliance with his counsel the whole matter was dropped, and the fraternities retired from the scene at the Iowa State College. Beardshear met with no difficulty as a result of his initial stand in establishing discipline, and for the years he was president there were no organizations of the nature in the college.

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## WALLACE'S FARMER FOUNDED

Blessings have come in the disguise of calamity, and opportunity is often preceded by disappointment and derangement of plans upon which one's cherished hopes are founded. So it proved to be when the board of trustees in August, 1894, called for the resignation of H. C. Wallace, an assistant in the department of agriculture. Had Harry Wallace been more congenial with his associates in the department he might have remained a member of the faculty and never entered the broader field of agricultural journalism, never have started Wallace's Farmer, and the Wallace family might never have risen to leadership in the state and nation. When the board terminated his connection with the college he responded to the call of opportunity, an opportunity frought with great consequences.

The action of the board of trustees was the culmination of strife existing in the department for several years. James Wilson "Tama Jim", was head of the department, two of his trusted assistants being two young men, Charles F. Curtiss and Harry C. Wallace. Wilson was an adroit leader and easily placated differences among members of his staff and maintaned harmony when they were disposed to make trouble. Curtiss knew the value of attenting to his own affairs only, letting others do the same. No man better than he knew how to keep free from entanglements, a trait that he displayed throughout life. Wallace was red headed with proverbial impulsiveness and frequently ran against the angularity of associates. It cannot be said that he had a chip on his shoulder, but his readiness to resent intrusion, fancied or real, lacked a good deal of turning the

other cheek. Punctilious and expecting the full measure of what was due, he was equally scrupulous in compensating 100 per cent for what he had received. George E. Patrick, chemist for the experimental station, was his pet irritant. The little Yankee chemist touched him off at first sight, and it must be admitted that Harry was quick on the trigger: The department sort of divided into factions, with Wilson, Curtiss and Wallace on one side and Patrick, Kent and Leighton on the other. Wilson and Curtiss kept aloof and Wallace was friendly. But toward the other three named above Patrick entertained hostile thoughts.

Wallace was not hunting for trouble when the board met, but he was ready to take it in and give the best he had in the house should it come his way. He had started a paper in the town of Ames, called the Farm and Dairy, and was editor, with his brother John P. business manager. It was devoted to the farm and dairy and related subjects, and published contributions from members of the faculty and others. The editor kept up an editorial department and was regarded as an authority on technical subjects. He was a free lance and indulged in comment which sometimes drew the fire of lesser lights. The Farm and Dairy, edited by a professor, was highly regarded among exchanges and critics. His comments generally attracted attention.

When the board met, May, 1894, there were a number of new members, acquainted with the Wallace-Patrick factional troubles, and determined to end them, even if it were necessary to fire the whole outfit. Patrick was on hand to file complaint

against Wallace for charges published in the Farm and Dairy, accusing him of "jockeying" experiments; that is, affecting conditions so as to obtain certain results. Thus accused of unscientific methods, Patrick insisted on retraction and an apology. Other charges, some of lesser severity, were made in the same series of articles. Peppery comments were exchanged by Wallace and Patrick, indicating a bad state of mind. The outcome was a resolution passed by the board enjoining Wallace against further use of his columns to stir up strife or interfere with the harmony of the department. Further offense would cause his removal from the faculty.

Wallace accepted the situation and thereafter his paper kept the faith. No reference was made to misconduct by Patrick or the division under his direction. Not so with Patrick, however. When he found the Farm and Dairy closed against attack on him or his methods he started attacks through the Dairy Journal, a Matt Parrott publication at Waterloo. With Wallace's guns spiked he had things his own way for a time and was not particular about what he said. Wallace squirmed under Patrick's indiscriminate assaults and chafed under the restraint of enforced silence. When the board met in August the editor of the Farm and Dairy appeared with a request that the restriction be removed and he be permitted to reply to charges, which if unanswered might be accepted as true. His self respect, he said, made silence intolerable and he could not continue the policy of ignoring the constant recurrence of Patrick's malice.

Even at the sacrifice of his position he was determined to protect his reputation as a scientist and citizen. Patrick was obdurate and persistent, as he deemed Wallace muzzled by the resolution, which forbade reply through Wallace's paper.

The outcome was a resolution the next day asking for the resignation of Wallace, Patrick and Leighton. The resolution was so awkwardly worded that a misapprehension went out to Prof. Curtiss who was requested to "withdraw from the Farm and Dairy", which meant that he withdraw from any financial interest he may have in the establishment. Though the interpretation first given was that he withdraw, or resign from the "farm and dairy", or resign his professorship.

Wallace was more affected by the board's action than anyone else, not excepting the college. Retirement of three members of the faculty was a mere incident in the history of the college. Such things are apt to happen any year and not cause a ripple. Men are subject to nervous spells and likely to become contentious and destructive to harmony so necessary in the running of an institution. Experience has taught that a contentious professor, no matter how efficient in the work of the department, becomes a hindrance to progress, and the best disposition to make of him is to fire him bodily. When Wallace and his friends retired their places were filled and the incident passed from notice. Wallace was the only one of the three affected to any marked extent. With him it was the turning point, the opening of a way that led to fortune and fame, that

had effect beyond state bounds and brought national attention to himself and members of his family. On retiring from the faculty, under circumstances noted, he discontinued his Farm and Dairy at Ames, and the next the state learned of him he was editor of Wallaces' Farmer, published at Des Moines. Farm and Dairy was a humble beginning, which emerged in a larger field, in more pretentious form, under a different name and bid for wider favor, backed by increased talents. His father, "Uncle Henry" Wallace, had been editor of the Iowa Homestead, in partnership with James M. Pierce, and was one of the best known agricultural writers in the middle west. Wallace was not only a leader on agricultural journalism, he was also widely known as a lecturer and writer on economical and denominational subjects. He was popular with the farmers of Iowa and they had high regard for his ideas on question of the day. John P. Wallace, a younger brother, was made business manager. Harry's eldest son, Henry A. Wallace, afterwards secretary of agriculture in Roosevelt's cabinet, and a leader in the brain trust, early developed into a helpful assistant and was a factor in building up the paper which, because of special features, became so popular with all classes. For Wallaces' Farmer was more than an agricultural paper. It was printed on a fine grade of paper, presented a bright typographical appearance and had a place mechanically and editorially, beside the best weekly publications in the nation. It acquired a large circulation in a remarkably short time and

with its subscription lists and advertising patronage became a money maker. Its office equipment ranked with the best in the city, it was published in a modern brick building, the Wallaces all lived in elegant homes in the capitol city, with every appearance of prosperity.

While Wallaces' Farmer prospered the Wallace family
rose to honored positions in the business and politics of the
state. Uncle Henry advanced in good will and esteem, his lectures
and writings were cherised in the homes and the paper was read
around the firesides by all classes. Wallaces' Farmer became
a real home companion among the intelligent readers and without
special schemes to boost circulation it maintained a place in
middle west homes that no other of its class ever attained. The
editor gained the confidence of the people and was sincere and
forthright in his leadership. As a college professor he surrendered
his position rather than submit assault on his good name. As an
editor he stood for the square deal and so that when President
Harding sought a suitable man for secretary of agriculture he
chose the editor of Wallaces' Farmer, H. C. Wallace.

He died in office, alas too soon, before the possibilities of his well ordered mind had attained full fruition, while there was still much of the work he had planned unfinished. Fortunately his son, Henry A., the third of the name in a line of journalistic virility, was available to take his place as the responsible head of an influential journal.

## RETURN OF THE FRATERNITIES

During the Beardshear administration affairs of the college passed without noticeable disturbance among the students. The exclusion of the fraternities was regarded as the settled policy and accepted in good spirit. The attendance increased every year and the institution prospored in all the departments. Its growth was so marked that the board of trustees had difficulty to procure sufficient funds to take care of increasing needs. But underneath the surface forces were at work that were to recall the exiles and enlist their aid in helping the college through an emergency.

The destruction by fire of the Old Main had direct bearing on the restoration of fraternities to the Iowa State College. Already living quarters on the grounds had become inadequate to accommodate the rapidly increasing numbers. The boarding department which for years had been a source of loss and annoyance was becoming an unbearable burden. The destruction of the Main reduced the available space for class rooms and student quarters, and demand for readjustment brought about changes sooner than had been expected.

Private enterprise fortunately came to the rescue and the situation did much to solve itself. Families came to the vicinity from various parts of the state to educate their young people and built homes on ground south and west of the campus, which had been laid out in additions by enterprising realtors. The houses for most part were large and roomy, designed to accommodate students and help out the family budget. Students formed

clubs, sometimes using Greek letters in the nomenclature, and built a number of commodious club houses. Meuns of communication with the town of Ames were improved and many students found domicile down town. Authorities saw the advantage of interesting fraternities to establish themselves in the college, that their bent for substantial homes might be capitalized. Fraternity homes would take care of many students and give tone to the community. President Beardshear at the height of a successful career was suddenly called by death and Dr. A. B. Storms, an alumnus of the University of Michigan, was his successor. During his course Storms was a member and took a leading part in fraternity activities. He fully believed they had a part in student life for social development, not in anywise conflicting with progress along scholastic lines. While this attitude was not unanimous, and there were persons still in authority who were identified with the ejectment, and had not changed on the main question, they yielded to the emergency, and gave reluctant assent. President Storms, while having the almost unanimous support of the trustees, was the moving force that brought the fraternities back. However, there would have been an invitation for their presence in the college had not the emergency risen at that time. Conditions had so changed from domicile in the Main that relations between fraternities and their opponents produced no antagonism. They might live apart, and use their own pleasure about commingling, so different from the time when because of limited quarters they were necessarily crowded together.

There has never been doubt about the wisdom of restoring the fraternities. Class records show that they have not affected unfavorably their progress in the main undertakings, while their activities have given the college rank with the leading colleges and universities of the land. They are an outgrowth of college life in the nation, and contribute to commendable ambitions among young people during their student days.

President W. I. Chamberlain was the third man to try to compose a situation that was in ferment since the removal of the first president. The task called for the efforts of a superman. No ordinary man could conciliate the factions and bring harmony to contentious partisans. The ultimate test came when an impact between his administration and warring students engaged in an internecine conflict brought chaos to college government. Seven hectic years were to pass before the man with penetrating eye and iron fist was to take hold and restore the institution to a going concern. The superman came and unraveled the tangled mesh.

The difficulties that flared with spectacular height in the episode with the fraternities were but symptoms of an unhealthy condition down deeper in the system. They would have been averted had their causes never developed. When the land grant colleges were created there was not entire agreement in regard to the purposes they should fulfill. There were two concepts, one that they should be devoted exclusively to the promotion of agriculture, and allied industries; the other that

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There were two fraternities in the I. S. C. in 1889, when the culminating troubles broke out. The Delta Tau Delta was installed in 1876 and had maintained a prosperous chapter

"ever since. The same may be said of the Pi beta Phi, which was installed as the "I. C." the same year. The presence of the fraternities in a small student body where students were in such close daily contact naturally did not contribute to the promotion of aimiability in family life. There was no reason why the frats and anti-frats should not dwell together in harmony, but students are always that way. The charge was made that fraternity members arrogated superiority, and had the best of it when it came to pastimes incident to student life, that they were clannish, and more often than otherwise ingratiated themselves into faculty favor and became teachers' pets. These were general allegations. Specific charges, often the creation of imagination, rose daily from incidental occurrences. So intense became the strife that it was taken into the class rooms, the laboratories and social gatherings. Members of fraternities were at last expelled from the literary societies, and to provide themselves with facilities for the desired programs started a society of their own.

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The college was opened in an era of beginnings, while yet pioneers were pushing back the frontiers and wresting new areas from primitive conditions. When Iowa formally accepted the land grant provided in the Morrill act it had borne the dignity of statehood only a decade. Less than a quarter of a century had passed since the Blackhawk war, which event opened the territory west of the Mississippi River for white settlement. The subsequent years, from the founding of the college to the opening of its doors for the admission of students were marked by history making events. The nation passed through the throes of a civil war and the perplexities of the period of reconstruction. Into that struggle Iowa, with a population of only 730,000 placed in the field 78,000 of its young manhood. In the repeated demands for men and money the young state responded without stint and made a proud record in its support of the government. In addition it met the needs of a young and growing state by establishing civil institutions for its dependents and unfortunate wards that required state supervision and support. History of the period reveals the fact that the college was kept uppermost and no contingency arising during the stressful years was permitted to interfere with its construction. No incidental need was pressing enough to set aside the requirements of the college which was scheduled to be ready for students on a given date. The founders were determined in a purpose, and inspired with an ideal. The spirit that dominated in their popular support has continued to inspire ever since. There is no accident in the place Iowa occupies in the literacy

of all states, at the top. It has retained supremacy because it has fostered education in every aspect and promoted its vital interests.

The Old Main, though erected in a period of disturbed and distressing business conditions was at the time one of the pretentious edifices in Iowa, rivaling in outlines and dimensions the capitol of the state. It was symbolical of the position the founders hoped the new education would hold in the development of the state. It stood solitary and alone on a conspicuous point on the college land with not a tree or shrub to soften its outlines. The winds swept over unbroken prairies which extended to the encircling horizon with nothing to obstruct its freedom. Nature had not loosened its grip to the incoming college community. The roads that criss-crossed the section were but little improvement over the paths that marred the native sod. The campus differed but little from adjacent farms destitute of groves or shrubs or flowers. This campus had unsurpassed beauties hidden in the folds of nature, there to remain till the hand of an artist should reveal them. The artist was on the ground early and proceeded to paint the picture. Dr. A. Welch, skilled as a landscape artist, proceeded to select his pigments with care, taking into account the contour of the ground, the climate in which his coloring was to be brought out and the outlines of the picture to be developed. Nature responded richly to his touch but time was essential as it was not possible to hasten the processes of growth, so that the students

who worked with the first president were not permitted to see the picture, they only dreamed of a reality which is enjoyed by their successors. This campus with its elegant buildings embowered with trees and vines and hedged about with shrubs and flowers in variety of coloring challenges description. It is a dream come true.

Homes from which students came in time of the beginnings were unpretentious and moderately appointed. People for the most part were in debt, many struggling to lift the mortgage from the homestead. They were industrious and frugal. Their only way to meet obligation and make improvements on their homes was to be economical and make their resources go as far as possible. This required thrift and industry, the basis of the future. The prospect of better conditions, with debts paid and improvements made on the home, with sons and daughters receiving benefits of the schools, inspired them as they labored. Young people in the homes took in the thought with the air they breathed and were inspired by the same old-fashioned virtues.

It is to be taken for granted the students coming from those homes were to be influenced by home environments. Teachings inculcated under the parental roof were likely to influence boys and girls in new surroundings and affect them in their undertakings. And so it turned out. Students of the day were moderate in the mode of dress and content to forego the expensive and the elegant. Socially they were inclined to be conservative and capable of distinguishing between reality and make-believe. They were genuine in their protestations, thrifty

in their habits, and inclined to make their resources reach as far as they could.

The class of '72 is typical. For some years this was the largest class graduated, all strong students who finished the course with creditable records. Their lives were coeval with the college. They grew up in an atmosphere of expectancy. When the time arrived for opening the college they were stimulated with an earnestness accumulated during the years of waiting and entered their student career with a definite purpose. Coming from homes where moderation prevailed and plain people lived plainly, and within their means, they took up their task with no false notions and proceeded to make good use of their time. When the end came they left college with the aim realized, rich in scholarship and strong in character. Their degree of success in the practical world bespeaks the quality of their efforts and the genuineness of their attainments.

As a class the girls of that period heeded the teachings of the home. Influences of the mothers proved to be factors in the careers of the daughters. Their mode of dress differed essentially from the present vogue, but whether the change marks improvement or retrogression is a mooted question, much depending on standards prevailing then and now. Fashion in woman's attire has always been a capricious dame, and at various times she has perpetrated atrocities that were neutralized by the good sense of the victims who forced reform and their abandonment. Extreme and atrocious dressers have always been with us, but their presence

has been brief. Good sense always prevails in the end.

About the era of the opening of this college women had been emancipated from an oppressive reign that extended back for generations. Style of dress was not only fantastic, it was repressive. Skirts in many numbers, designed in flounces, fluffy ruffles and involved in orinoline encumbering the wearer were at last rejected and cast into outer darkness. The hoop skirt shared a like fate and soon followed the bustle and the Grecian bend. Tight lacing and the waspish waist had met disfavor and came to no better end. Girls made good use of their freedom and enjoyed health and comfort impossible under the old order.

The style of wearing the hair has changed since then, reaching the present completely changed. Then as now styles varied with individual taste. But short hair was in disrepute and shunned by the normal person. It was looked upon as mannish, indicating strong mindedness and temperament not altogether lovely. But once in a while a girl appeared who ignored the prejudice and wore her hair to suit herself. That Des Moines girl who bobbed her hair and parted it at the side cared nothing about what people thought, she suited herself. As a matter of fact she was strong minded, though not mannish.

Fashion in men's attire has been more conservative, changes are fewer and within narrower range. Clothing was then mostly tailor made, as clothiers had not yet standardized their output. Readymade suits were distinguished by the crease that appeared in the front of the pants leg. And because it indicated

its "hand-me-down" origin it was customary to have it ironed out in the new garment. Now, however, the crease is indicative of care and a preventive of the baggy knee. There were no cleaners or pressers in the early period and suits were permitted to bag and soil clear to the end of service. Sack coats were getting the better of the frocks. The frock coat had pockets in the tail which when filled with newspapers or jimcracks bulged out back like a Grecian bend. Neck ties, what a variety, with the narrow string tie predominating. There were neck tie boys, they are still to be found, who pay more attention to neckwear than to the rest of the suit. There were creations of spectacular appearance that neck tie dressers made use of, and it looked incongruous to see a dandy, flashy tie with a slovenly suit of clothes and unpolished boots. Hats and caps were in endless variety, though the most noted was the stove pipe, slick and shining. It was impossible to wear a high silk hat without provoking ridicule. But Beau Brummells, in the faculty and student body, made the venture and enjoyed the distinction. Boots were worn instead of shoes, and the bootjack was as necessary as a tooth brush.

Paper collars were thought good enough for the plain people. A box of papers costing 25 cents might be made to serve through a full term. When one side was soiled it was an easy matter to turn and have a clean collar. But paper in time gave way before celluloid, which had a run inside and cutside of college for many years. Celluloid presented a shiny surface and had the

THE RESIDENCE OF THE PERSON OF the state of the s advantage of being easily cleaned. Just touch the handkerchief to the lip and rub it, moistened, to the soiled surface. Presto: a laundry bill was saved. Celluloid shirt fronts were not uncommon, serving as substitute for boiled shirt. They were easily wiped clean and first cost was in their favor. Properly cared for celluloid articles never were out.

The safety razor is of comparatively recent origin, the straight blade having met every demand. The average boy in earlier years had an ambition to raise a moustache. Photographs of the times show boys in most cases with moustache, and men were seldom smoothly shaven. Boys wore moustaches in every stage of development, from the tender and fuzzy to the handle bar of the Bismarck type. Many members of the faculty wore full beard and a number of the students were innocent of the use of the razor. With his full crop of alfalfa he looked older than he was and possessed an unconscious air of superiority. He never seemed young nor in age did he appear much older than in student days. Another, a hairy boy, was noted for his variety of whisker adornment. He would start out with a chinwhisker resembling a broom brush, then might allow a moustache of the handle bar variety, and this style might pass to a moustache and goatce that would do credit to a Kentucky colonel. Muttonchops followed in easy succession resembling John Bull from whose isle he had come when a boy. Valentino tufts beneath the ears might appear in the combination, and a Horace Greeley fringe below the light line of the face added to the variety of his

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Mickey Mouse combinations. This boy was a genius with the razor and lather brush. It would not be just to set him down as a poor student, for he was average in his classes. The vogue of face smoothly shaven is sanitary and affords facial expression that reveals character, where it exists.

The use of tobacco has increased among the students. Cigarettes were unpopular because the smoker had to "roll his own" and bother with the makin's, so pipes held favor. But one good thing has come from cigarettes and that is the way the filthy habit of tobacco chewing has been crowded out. The fact that girls have adopted the coffin nail with its sweet aroma and artistic touch commends its use. For there is nothing in the world like a sweet miss puffing a cigarette and scenting her breath with nicotine, indicating a discriminating sense for the beautiful and refined. Girls of today are that much in advance of the plain, sensible things who neither indulged their appetites nor ignored the sensibilities of others.

Bathing facilities were scarce and inaccessible.

Students who had regard for that virtue said to be next to Godliness were obliged to resort to the wash bowl. Bath tubs there were in the basement, for hire. They were not patronized for the reason that the required 25 cents charge was a practical obstruction. It was not so difficult to take a plunge in the wash bowl, and with towel and soap taking a good sponge bath was easy. Shaven and bathed, the next week's task was faced by the average with a feeling of elan and satisfaction. The old swimmin' hole in Squaw creek substituted for the wash bowl,

in season, which was only a short few weeks in the summer.

There was an unwritten law that bathing should not be neglected and a subconscious obligation of loyalty to the faithful wash bowl possessed the student.

Literary societies furnished the only outlet to curricular routine. In the absence of fraternities or social clubs interest in literary societies was active in the student body. Exercises included a wide range and afforded opportunity for differing tastes. It was possible for individuals to choose and each pursued the line he preferred. Some of the best efforts put forth in the school were attained in the literary societies. The off-curricular work was supplemental to the regular course.

With growth of the college and its progress from the simple to the complex other things have taken the place of the literary societies. No doubt the activities that absorbed the time and attention given to off-curricular work in former days is in consonance with the requirements of today. But it may well be noted that centralized thought and effort prepared the way for whatever ground work is worth while. And it may well be questioned whether or not the drift has been too far from early ideals. Is not this effort for mass thought enervating? Is it character forming and conducive to profound scholarship and profound thinking? In this mass formation that dominates schools and practical operations in life individual effort disappears and the collective whole holds forth.

Beginnings were laid in times of simpler life. When this college opened its doors there were no improved highways or means of easy travel. The telephone had not been perfected for popular use, electric lights had not yet come into use. Neither had typewriter or the multigraph, everything having to be written in long hand. The numerous devices that facilitate and lighten work were nebulous in the inventors, brain. The radio and automobile had not yet been advanced to general use. It was necessary then to make brick without straw, and handiwork still supplied the thousand needs that machinery afterwards took under its sway. The college, all colleges together, turned out the talent that revolutionized industry and developed the multiple enterprizes of the nation.

There ought to be more said about the scholar as a factor in the progress of the nation. For most developments in the realm of invention and structural projects are the creations of the brain of college men. The men who have done things received their inspiration and technical skill in college.

Their thought was pointed and their genius was sharpened under the tutelage of college professors. Their intellect was hammered out on the anvil by the college that trained them to think. Wellington exemplifies this point by his assertion that the battle of Waterloo was won at Eton, where he received his training.

The world has progressed from the simple to the complex, the college as a factor keeping step with every stride. The

in the lead. The college as a factor will be in advance in stages of further progress, at the head preparing geniuses to add to their already full quota. This college, all colleges, is still in the vanguard for progress.

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## TRANSITION

marked by periods of good feeling, smooth going, spats, rough stretches by times with an average only slow speed. The appearance of the president at county fairs and farmers' picnics had only a superficial effect. For while the college was apparently enjoying a fair season of prosperity there were at work forces that in time made for rocky travel and ultimate wrecking of the administration.

The agricultural department had not shared in the apparent success of the distinctively college side of the institution. Political chore boys enthroned in brief authority in the early days of reform, when President Welch was removed acted upon orders of the designers higher up with marked and obsequious obedience, but their work proved to be amateurish and unsubstantial. Certain functionaries placed in position of responsibility proved inefficient, incapable of meeting requirements. Gradually they fell behind and affairs of the department sank to the nadir. Farm organizations had looked on with alarm and decided to effect a change that would reach from the top down. But it was a change not easily made, one that might take several years.

Under the circumstances the President was on untenable ground. Forces similar to those which affected his three predecessors were still vital and ready to break out with the slightest disturbance. And come they did, and admitted of no compromise. Naturally there were extremists on both sides,

one charging that the Welch plan would lead to a second university, while the other expressed fear that the "radicals" would reduce the college to a farm school, for the breeding of animals and the production of seeds and propagation of plants. The I. S. C. grew and gained its standing among the leading colleges of its kind under the Welch direction. While the purposes of agriculture and kindred interests were scrupulously served, sciences were developed, engineering in its theoretical and practical relations was advanced and the school was regarded by educators as an asymetrical development. But it was subject to a fatality likely to overtake any public institution; it was dependent for its support upon the fortuities of politics. It was not necessarily true that issues regarding the college were involved in the campaign, but in the distribution of rewards after election the selection of trustees resulted in the choice of men whose interest in local politics dominated their sense of duty. It would be unfair to charge that every person taking part in the change of administration was bossed by politicians or impelled by self-interest. Some there must have been who believed that they were discharging an act of duty. The record, however, shows that there were members of the board so plastic in composition that active persons in the controversy shaped them into any sort of tools required for the occasion.

The second act in the drama came with the election to the presidency of S. A. Knapp, professor of agriculture and superintendent of the farm. As professor he received a salary

of \$1300, but as president he was to receive \$2500. retained his professorship, but for the performance of presidential duties he was allowed \$500, making his full salary \$2500. The assertion was made at the time that he agreed to retain the presidency for only one year, which assertion is given color of truth in the fact that he retained his professorship, and returned to its full performance after retiring from the head of the college. It may be stated at this place, that Professor Knapp resigned from his professorship in 1886 and went to Louisiana where at a sizable advance in salary he took up similar work. In the decade and a half that followed he became one of the best known educators of the south. He is mentioned in the letters of the late Walter Hines Page as having done more for the cotton growers and agriculturists of the south than any other man in its history. It is to be noticed that his greatest work and his eminence as redeemer and savior of a people came after he had passed his seventieth birthday.

The next manifestation of ferment came in the election of Leigh Hunt, young superintendent of East Des Moines city schools. He had the powerful backing of J. S. Clarkson, editor of the State Register and member of the board of trustees. Hunt lasted but a year, then resigned giving ill health as the cause. Hunt went to Seattle where he spent a few fitful years as banker, editor of the P-I newspapers and promoter of projects. His house of cards crushed in reverses that soon came and next he is heard of in Corea. In that distant country he obtained

mining concessions from the emperor and within a remarkably short time returned to Seattle a rich man. Paying his debts to the last dollar, he departed for England, where he had influential acquaintances and became affiliated with the high-ups. Next he is heard of in Egypt, where he promoted a dam across the Nile and headed a syndicate.

W. I. Chamberlain who assumed charge in 1886 faced an interesting situation. In the process of house cleaning people concerned directly or indirectly breathed an atmosphere that affected their entire system. The ailment was subconscious and all pervading. When the new president took charge he found some to be affected with hang-over headaches, others had bruised feelings, abrased skins, bad dreams. No such situation had confronted him in the discharge of his complex duties as secretary of the Ohio State Agricultural society and he was driven to his wit's end. He would draw from the vials of his medicine case and test remedies warranted to cure what ails you. If they worked in Ohio, why not in Iowa? The record shows that time proved to be the most efficacious restorative, for remedies applied by the president proved to be futile nostrums. The ailment of the eighties ran its course by the time Beardshear appeared. When people ceased to be temperamental, and looked forward, not backward, the inevitability of their fate was accepted with good cheer and hopeful viewsof the future. Time with good sense has a way of restoring ills and healing all breeches.

Chamberlain's regime was marked by both high points and low dips. By spells it sailed the seas smoothly; by turns it struck troubled waters. The eighties comprised an era in the country's development in industry, in transportation and commerce. Construction of railroad lines, bridges, sky scrapers and structural enterprises of various sort called for engineers, artisans and mechanics. Machinery took the place of hand labor in most of the crafts and skilled labor was in such demand that the schools were unable to meet the demand. The engineering schools grew disproportionately to the other departments. The I. S. C. stood high among engineering schools of the country and its management had reason to felicitate over the success it had attained.

But the success of the college during those years was only partial. While it seemed satisfactory to one side, approval came from only one side. Elsewhere there was silence that proved to be menacing.

## CURTISS

ment when he was chosen successor to James Wilson as head of the Agricultural Department and Director of the Experiment Station.

As assistant to Wilson he had become familiar with the duties of the position. Having been born on the farm and learned its needs and manifold demands he began with the proper background.

The way was now open to lay the foundation for the ideals evolved in his career as student and instructor.

For various reasons, for soveral years the department had failed to win favor with the agricultural classes, its fortunes having reached the nadir when only one student was enrolled. Students finding but little in the agricultural courses, which was but a skeleton, enrolled in other departments, where the sciences and academic studies occupied the entire field. Agriculture was the neglected member of the family. Indeed in none of the colleges did it receive more than scant recognition, a semester or two, perhaps. And even when recognition was more generously accorded it was given in the last two years of the curriculum. When farm boys were required to wait two years before getting what they really desired, and hoped to obtain from the college, they were not keen to enroll, and shied away from the agricultural department.

Professor Curtiss had a program which he proceeded to set in motion on taking charge. He started with the assumption that if the boys were given opportunity to take

agriculture together with cultural studies that would make a well rounded education they would accept it as the thing they were seeking, and the department would accomplished what it was originally designed for. So, a course was offered that gave agriculture in its elementary phase, then as the classes advanced the study progressed with coordinate branches, in other directions. The plan was to give a four year course in agriculture that ranked with the full courses in other departments, giving its graduates the same respect and credibility accorded to all other graduates. The consequences he foresaw followed, the attendance grew as predicted, with the ultimate effect that the Iowa State College gained the leadership in the United States.

The Iowa State College has always kept somewhat shead of the demands to be made on such an institution. The course offered was differentiated as the demands increased. Full four year courses, in the course of development, were given in animal husbandry, farm crops and soils, dairying, forestry, farm journalism, etc., till they were ten in number, each headed by a corps of competent instructors. A farmers' short course inaugurated in 1900 gained support from farmers because it gave personal touch and inspirational association. The success of the agricultural graduates from year to year added to the prestige of the institution and gave testimony to the wisdom of the department management. Opportunity knocked but once; Professor Curtiss met its challenge and with the alertness of youth took up the torch. Iowa, foremost in agricultural resources

backed his efforts and his objectives, in rich fulfillment, were attained.

Conservative members of the board found it disquicting to try to keep pace with Prof. Curtiss. His department grew and grew and at the end of every semester seemed to have an accumulation of new demands. Increased numbers of students caused new demands for instructors, additional quarters and equipment together with increased cost of maintenance. Problems in agriculture increased rather than diminished and new avenues were opened for exploration. If the college were to retain its prestige the department must be furnished the requisite talent and funds. Divisions of farm engineering, soil adaptation, feed experimentation, animal husbandry, agronomy and other lines of work and investigation, required major attention. Only by thorough investigation and scientific effort could results be obtained. The department was conducted along lines at once progressive and practicable, and in a remarkably short period of time Curtiss gained the full confidence of the college authorities and the board of trustees.

In the years that Prof. C. F. Curtiss had charge of the department of agriculture and the experiment station, the industry of agriculture underwent its greatest development in America. Machinery with its multiple of appliances removed from farm labor most of its drudgery, increased man power and revolutionized social life among rural homes. Leadership in the period of transition was exerted through technical and industrial schools, and in all great undertakings the Towa

State College was conspicuous in the front rank. Throughout the forward movement it maintained the high rank it holds at this time.

"Tama Jim" will continue to be prominent in the history of the Iowa State College, for the valued services rendered while at the head of the agricultural department, and his distinguished career as secretary of agriculture for 16 years in the cabinets of three presidents. So, just a word about him: He was known in Iowa by the familiar title of "Tama Jim." In his younger years he was a member of the legislature, and served as speaker in one session. At the time there was another James Wilson prominent in Iowa politics. James F. Wilson, of Fairfield, was a member of congress from Iowa during the civil war, and was prominent enough to be chosen prosecutor for the house of representatives in the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson. He continued to be an influential factor and in the '80's was elected United States senator. To distinguish the Wilsons, one from the other, the Fairfield Wilson was known as "James F"., and the younger man, who lived on a farm in Tama county was known as "Tama Jim". He liked to be so called by his intimates but had a presence worthy of a Scotch gentleman and did not invite the familiarity of being called "Tama Jim" by the casual person he met.

## ABOUT CURTISS AND WILSON

James Wilson (Tama Jim) at the time of his appointment as accretary of agriculture in McKinley's cabinet held one of the most important positions in the college faculty. Coming from his homestead in Tama county, he had been farmer, statesman, and educational writer and author, and was held in high regard by the agricultural organizations of the state. He was in full sympathy with the trend of industrial education, which was toward the technical and scientific, and readily grasped the problems that arose for solution. The department in his charge was well organized for the work ahead, and the new experiment station under his directorship had just started a new line of work destined to revolutionize the education of the agricultural classes. The vacancy caused by his resignation therefore called for serious consideration. Wilson made no disguise of his decided preference for his assistant, Charles F. Curtiss. With characteristic naivete he told the board, when his preference was called for: "I do not care whom you choose, just so you choose Charley Curtiss." The unanimous judgment of the authorities was that C. F. Curtiss was the right man, and he was elected without opposition. From the beginning he disclosed the characteristics that marked his career in the forty years that followed. He was clear headed, far sighted and could approximate the trend of future developments with wonderful foresight. One of the best judges of human nature on the campus, he surrounded himself with men of ability and ambition.

He was intensely industrious and in his department there was always something happening, and preparation for still more to happen. He was a good window trimmer, and passers by were treated to something to arrest attention. Witness the prizes won at the International Live Stock Exposition, the winnings of his young men in the livestock judging contests at Chicago. Officials of the state, or distinguished visitors from abroad were shown the college grounds and farm in one of the finest of equipages, drawn by the toppiest teams of coach horses in the west. Kentucky blue grass region presented no equestrian sight to surpass Curtiss on his five-gaited saddle horse. At the state fair as a member of the Iowa State Agricultural society he decided disputes, guided the forces that tied on red and blue ribbons and presided at banquets. At Chicago he was prominent in the Saddle and Boots club and became the favorite of such men as John Klay, of the Klay, Robinson Commission company. No national meeting of men interested in agricultural education was complete without the presence of the head of the agricultural department of the I.S.C. Meanwhile he kept the forces going and extended the scope of their undertakings. He was the first to request a full time secretary, for it became impossible to write his letters and records in long hand. Then he had the affrontry to ask the board for a typewriting machine to be used exclusively in his department. He was looked upon by the conservatives as extravagant when he made requisition for a telephone. He was first on the campus to detect the advantage of a desk phone over a wall phone, although it cost 25 cents a month more

he induced the board to authorize the increase. It was a saver of time, he explained.



## HOLDEN AND SEED CORN TRAINS

effort of the college to send the gospel to the furthermost corner of the state, and to rouse the farmers to the importance of better seed corn. Investigation had shown the possibility of greater yield of corn if all conditions were right and better methods were brought into use. The corn belt with its matchless soil and climate was not producing to capacity, and one of the fundamental faults it was concluded by the department of agriculture, under Prof. Curtiss's direction, was defective seed which the farmers were using. Obviously if defective seed were planted production would be short and land and labor in its cultivation were necessarily wasted.

If the chief aim of the Iowa farmer, to raise more corn, to feed more hogs, to buy more land on which to raise more corn, to feed more hogs, to buy more land, were to be pursued to ultimate success, then the yield must be pushed to highest efficiency and every factor in the operation be brought to effective cooperation. Agitation for testing seed corn was by no means new in the state. The subject received casual attention in farm gatherings, and occasional contributions in the newspapers touched the importance of sound seed, but season to season passed without definite action, and the old method of planting with no heed to the life germ of the seed continued. An exception should be noted, however, in the annual call by Richard P. Clarkson in the columns of his

"Uncle Dick" sounded the warning, for farmers to test their seed corn. Pointing out that there was waste and loss in Iowa corn fields because farmers were planting seed devoid of life germs and entirely worthless, he kept the subject ever before them. While there were others who kept the subject alive chief credit should be given to the State Register for keeping it before farm organizations year after year.

Prof. Curtiss after careful observation decided that the major need was for sound seed corn. The test involved no occult process. He knew when he took definite action to spread the gospel what was necessary in order to impress the farmers. The adoption of railroad trains to disseminate the gospel was no accident. It was carefully worked out in conference with railroad heads and college authorities and the undertaking was carefully organized from the inception. It was decided how the principal sections of the state were to be reached, and the by-ways and highways must not be neglected.

The selection of Perry G. Holden was made after looking over a large number of applicants. Holden at the time was in the employ of a large seed firm in Illinois. He was an alumnus of the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing, had taught in the public schools and had been a college instructor. His work showed him to be a live wire, a man of pep and upstanding qualities in every thing he undertook. More of the lecturer than scientist, he had the faculty of imparting

continusiasm to his hearers and enlisted their interest like a true crusader. His qualifications for spreading the gospel of sound seed among Iowa farmers met all requirements, and the efficiency of his pilgrimages over the state has never been called in question.

The railroads gave the corn trains most generous cooperation. On the main lines, and where possible on the branches, Prof. Holden carried on the crusade from special trains. The train usually consisted of two cars to the locomotive, one for storage of equipment and accounterments, the other usually a combination coach, with dining and sleeping facilities, to provide for emergencies. This meant that "George," to meet all demands, was a versatile gentleman, acting both as porter and chef. Holden usually had with him a number of young men who relayed him at times, when he had conferences and side talks with farmers and others requiring special attention. Meetings were almost always held at railroad stations, where crowds awaited the arrival of the train. Schools in the small towns were often dismissed and the entire population assembled to hear the special message. Leading farmers and others interested would board the train and ride short distances to get an insight into the working of the crusade.

Holden understood the psychology of the crowd and played with it as with a specially designed instrument. He readily dropped into the vernacular and took up with expressions of the neighborhood. Localisms served his purpose better than

elucidations of the scientists; then why not drop his "g's", pocket his grammar, and talk to the crowd in their own language? · For the moment he was on of them, and while they laughed with him they took in what he had to say about good and bad seed corn. When he told them that a hill that failed to raise its share of stalks was a slacker, When he said that those which had been layin' around all summer doin' nothin' ought to be "plucked out and cast into the fire," they understood what he said. When he declared that with sound seed every hill in the field would get busy and do its share, they understood that, too. The hill with but a single stalk, and that with a nubbin or a deformity, was the offspring of defective parentage, the product of poor seed. In impersonating the things he talked about, often in bad grammar with indifferent pronunciation, he accomplished his purpose, impressed his hearers in a way they were not likely to forget.

The testing of seed corn was a simple process and could be performed with an appliance that could be made in any farm home. Exhibiting a sample, he told how it could be used to make the test of all the seed to be planted. It was simple and inexpensive. He dwelt upon the methods heretofore followed and called attention to the very slight effort required in selecting the seed. Holden drove his message home, and when he was through there was not a person present who did not know how to test his seed corn.

Publicity was the chief object in the entire movement. Holden was evangelist enough to know that the important thing was to impress people in such a way that they would remember and discuss what he said. The point was to make his hearers understand the great importance of better seed and instill a determination to plant no other. Hence, he cautioned hearers not "to cool off after the neetin! was over."

Holden worked night and day. In the evening, when the gospel train lay over, to resume next morning, a meeting was held, usually in the court house or in the "opera house" or possibly in the school house. The corn evangelist on such occasions was more meticulous in speech and diction. Life on the farm, community activities, came in for discussion, together with testing seed corn and the crowning of King Corn. The next day the community had something to talk about suggested by the evangelist's deliverance. His itinerary was planned to cover as comprehensive territory as possible before seed time, and it was surprising to note the extent of the work accomplished. The fact that only at one point in Icwa is it possible to get eight miles distant from a railroad gives an idea how practical it was to spread the gospel to almost every farm community.

Holden preachments struck a responsive chord and farmers took prompt action to test their seed with the result that the first season proved the value of the movement. The yield per acre was plainly increased and growers were gratified at increased profits. Precedent to testing the seed was its selection which was dwelt upon in the discussions pertaining

to the testing of the seed. For really selection of sood was a part, and an important part, of the process.

One phase of the undertaking was the cooperation of the railroads. Managers believed that increased yields would accrue and with greater production from Iowa cornfields would come more business for their lines. More hogs, more corn would be moved, more building material needed, more implements shipped in, and traffic generally would be stimulated. And that is just what happened. Records of subsequent years show that an increase of several bushels came from the vast area in the corn belt and every dollar expended in the campaign for better seed was returned a thousand fold. Productiveness of Iowa corn fields was permanently increased, and a corresponding increase came to the inherent value of the land.

The campaign for better seed corn had a cumulative effect in new interest taken in seed of all kind of crops. While special attention was given only to a few varieties of grain the fact is that seed tests became part of every progressive farmer's program. The Holden trains are only part of the work undertaken during the development of the farm extension division of the college department. In pioneer days, when farmers began to organize for common betterment, the department sent out lecturers to instruct, and to inspire in the furtherance of agricultural development. It was then that the foundation was laid for the practical assistance rendered Iowa's leading industry under direction of the college. The Holden trains

was the first formal undertaking to reach farmers in their own neighborhood and conduct classes where they lived. But it was only one of a number of such diversions to utilize the findings of science in agriculture and apply the results of research to the simple requirements of crop production.

Incidentally, it must not be assumed that Prof. Holden was the discoverer or author of seed corn testing. Long years before he was born the breeding of corn seed had been developed with scientific efficiency. Breeders produced numerous varieties of seed, according to the climate it was to be grown in and the purposes for which it was to be used. It is doubtful if any plant is to be found with more numerous varieties, and these have been produced by breeders under laws as fixed as any that govern in the biology of the animal kingdom. Holden's part was that of the ethnologist who sets out to breed a better, healthier race.

It is not without interest one follows Prof. Molden after his service as agronomist in the State College. Incidentally, his seed corn crusade attracted the attention of certain farm groups who decided to call him to the governorship. He was induced to contest the nomination of Governor George E. Clarke, but was unsuccessful in the primary. In the course of time he was offered an increased salary by the International Harvester Company, which had observed his career at Ames, which he accepted. As agricultural expert he continued in that company's service until recent years, when he was

retired with a liberal pension allowance. His later years have been spent in retirement on a farm in Michigan, his native state, in the enjoyment of a happy family and friends who visit him in retirement. He has much in retrospect to illuminate life in the quiet of his retreat. One thing, he made a lasting impression on the cornfields of Iowa.

The practical value of the crusade has never been questioned. Statistical reports on record show an actual increase of several bushels per acre. Figures are given showing an average additional yield that justified an increase in the price of land, other things being equal. The menacing presence of an over-yield, the necessity of plowing under crops and turning pigs into fertilizer was a development of later years, and the department under Prof. Curtiss had occasion for felicitation over the success of the undertaking.

## ROADWAY

Direct approach to the college from the town of Ames was a problem from the beginning. The distance was about a mile and a half, direct, but by going by way of the public road, south of the college land, and entering through the south gate, it was much farther. For many years the highway was unimproved and in wet weather the ground was muddy and travel afoot decidedly difficult. Because of the objectionable roadway students and others used the Northwestern right of way from Hoggatt street to a point in the college farm, then followed a well beaten path to the campus. There were objections to this which bobbed up frequently. The high railroad bridge across Squaw creek was never free from danger from an approaching train from either direction. Instances were reported where students about midway, unable to reach either end, were caught by oncoming trains and obliged to climb on the extending gestlework to escape being run down. Not only that, accidents were likely to happen to pedestrians along the track and both railroad and college authorities discouraged use of that route to town, or back. This condition continued for nearly a third of a century, but when the population of Ames increased and the college had notable increase in attendance, foot travel became a puzzling trouble. The board of trustees and college authorities were not indifferent to the need of fortifying against casualty and had the matter under consideration when a committee of representative citiens of Ames presented urgent reasons why something

should be done. A principal reason was the need of nore direct access between the college and the town, whereby better social conditions might be advanced and advantages to both be promoted. The necessity of providing suitable and safe facilities for passage was a matter of mutual admowledgement. But while there was agreement on the main objective differences persisted as to means. Subsequently the Ames representation appeared with definite plans, which were given due inspection, and a committee of the board was appointed for further consider-The plans provided the extension of Sixth street, Ames, to the college land, north of the Northwestern right of way. Thence the road was to pass some distance, still north of the railroad and by an underhead crossing pass south and west to the vicinity of the farm barns, continuing till it merged into the campus driveways. It would have its exit at the west gate where the public highway was reentered. Assurances were secured from the board of supervisors of Story county that the bridge across Squaw creek would be taken care of by the county.

The proposed highway would accomplish all that was claimed by the petitioners; it would open direct passage between the town and college, shorten the distance, and afford pleasant drives. But it would do more; it would divert travel from the highway, south of the college land, through the college grounds, past buildings, through student groups changing classes and going hither and thither on the campus. It required no

prophet to envisage truffic naturally usin booms surcet, south of the college, adopting the route through the grounds,

time. The prospect of heavy traffic over the drives and live stock and every variety of transportation through the center of college activity was obviously objectionable, and for this reason consent was withheld after the first series of conferences was held. Ames representatives persisted in their efforts to have Sixth street extension consummated, and in after years they recurred with aggravated consequences.

The board of trustees, taking the position that the college should be protected from a public highway, with the annoyances and handicap of overland travel, took what was thought at the time steps to remove the foot travel over the Northwestern right of way. The superintendent of grounds was instructed to construct a footpath that started at the college driveway, near the horse barn, and ran east nearly to the east line of the college land. Permit was obtained from the city council for extension east through unplatted land to Hoggatt street (now Grand avenue) where it crossed the Northwestern and access was had to Sixth street, and the way was clear thence to the business section. A footbridge was built across the creek, south of the railroad. The "cinder path" became a popular way between the college and town and was used by 100 percent of pedestrian travel. Railroad authorities at Boone expressed their pleasure to have the danger of accidents removed, and everybody connected with college management breathed more easily.

But on the part of the promotors of the extension of Sixth street there was no let up. They insisted that nothing short of a driveway between college and the town would adequately serve the needs of the situation. They minimized the objection that travel would be diverted from what later became known as Lincoln Highway, through the college grounds, and refused to admit that heavy traffic and miscellaneous passage of vehicles, live stock and freight of whatever character would interfere with a degree of isolation and remoteness from public contact that was obviously desirable to college welfare. So agitation continued till at one time unseemly conduct on part of proponents consumated in a contest that reflected no credit upon them. The home of the president of the college was molested and the family was exposed to indignities, if not personal injury. This coming from responsible sources in the movement to gain concession for the town of Ames had the opposite effect of what was intended.

However, the need of a driveway became a matter of necessity because of conditions developing in connection with the growth of the college. As the attendance increased there was more travel on the highway, more vehicular travel over. Boone street and pedestrians over the cinder path. Coincident with the college development came the automobile which added to the density of the traffic. The Lincoln highway became a veritable "bottleneck" and there was neither comfort nor safety in going hither or thither between town and college. This situation was solved by opening the way via Thirteenth street into the farm. From the city limits the roadway was extended

west, thence south, under the Northwestern track and finally connecting with drives on the campus. The circultous course of this route and through travel impracticable and cross country traffic improbable and the contentions of every president the institution ever had and authorities whose duty it was to protect college interests were maintained intact. The extension of Thirteenth street served every purpose claimed for the Sixth street extension, without including the objections so palpable in case of the latter.

The footpath which was constructed to avert danger from travel on the Northwestern right of way served permanent needs and became more and more popular as pedestrian travel increased. So many of the students reside in the city of Ames that it became necessary to add to the facilities and a footpath was added to the south passageway, and now footmen go back and forth along this route.

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## MARK BUILDING

No record extent tells the story of the location of the old Main building. It must have been a matter of importance, for from that point plans were adopted that gave form to the college grounds, shaped the campus and affected the location of department buildings destined to be added. In the light of accomplishment it appears that the early suthorities builded better than they knew. They have all gone to their reward, but one is met now and then advanced in age, who in early youth had knowledge of the primitive surroundings, and conversed with the founders.

A former official of Boone county long past the alloted years of man, enjoying retirement in California, stated recently that in his youth he was familiar with the tract of land the state purchased for the Agricultural College. With wooded bottom, bluffy uplands, shallow soil and soattered sand pits it was nothing to boast of. The southwest part, set aside for college grounds and building sites, was rough and covered with a growth of weeds and native grasses. It was an unsightly, uninviting patch of land, not suited for cultivation.

Travel in those days was by stage, and the road crossed Squaw creek at the site of the present bridge on Lincoln highway. Thence it angled northwest and passed over the bluff east of the farm house, extending west to the P. L. Porter homestead near the west gate, where horses were changed before going on to Boone. The Main was located on

evolved from the hills and hollows, developed by the landscaper's art, or simply built his house by the side of the road to be a friend to man, is of little moment. But the selection of site was fortunate because of the contour of the ground, which opened a field for landscape exploitation and made possible an achievement that has won praise from succeeding generations. Not only that, it placed the college remote from the public highways, on the south and west, and secured for it privacy from intrusion of casual outsiders and curiosity seekers.

The Central building is located very properly on the site of the old Main. As a larger structure it covers more ground to the east and south. A bit of sentiment prevailed, however, when the site was chosen. The bell tower which stands west of the building, near the northwest corner is on the exact spot it occupied when in the court, between the wings of the old Main. In order to leave the tower undisturbed, where it had stood from the beginning of the college, it was necessary to locate the new edifice several feet to the east. It was an act of sentiment, that students and college friends have approved.

Dr. A. S. Welch, first president, had no part in locating old Main, as some have thought. At that time he was in another section of the country, thousands of miles distant, otherwise engaged. He had not yet appeared in the picture. The grounds were primitive and unattractive when he first saw the college. Rough hills and depressions struck the casual observer as nothing unusual on a frontier farm though

unsuited for crop production and regarded of small value.

To Dr. Welch's artistic eye a different view opened up. He saw that Nature had given the background, his love of the beautiful inspired the picture. His pigments were trees, shrubs, flowering plants and grasses. His intimate knowledge of plant growth, foliage, forms and habits of plants enabled him to blend his pigments with artistic effect. The completed picture attests the skill of the artist.

Apropos, the story is told that in order to avoid artificiality in setting trees, shrubs, etc, Dr. Welch would pitch handfuls of potatoes in the air and where they fell place his settings. His attempt to reproduce nature's lack of order in this manner has often been questioned, and many have regarded the story as apocryphal. However, it has verification in a statement by himself, made to his son-in-law,

A. B. Shaw, many years afterward. He said that the plan was followed wherever he had clumps or groups planted.

It was thought impractical to retain the original campus when buildings of different departments were erected. They encroached on ornamental grounds and the campus proper and changed to some extent the aspects originally planned. The vista extending from Central east over the farm house, Squaw creek bottom, and the city of Ames, to the horizon several miles beyond, and bounded on each side by campus trees and shrubbery was strikingly attractive, and when it became apparent that the building program was to encroach on

olmstead Brothers of Boston who had designed grounds of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893, were retained to draw the new plans. Most of the buildings since then have been located with that plan in mind. The campus area was somewhat diminished and its outlines modified, but Dr. Welch's ideals have been preserved to a large extent.

Location of the Creamery and the Hall of Agriculture was the first encroachment on the original campus. The vista, its chief feature, suffered defacement and beauty was to be conceived in revised outlines. Many protests were made by former students against what they regarded as mutilation of the campus and profanation of Dr. Welch's ideals. In the expansion of the departments it was thought impossible to reserve all the space included in original design for ornamental grounds and campus. Had authorities been more endowed with a love of the beautiful and felt more concern for the development of the aesthetic, buildings would have been erected further back in the open spaces and the campus would not have undergone curtailment and the original picture would have been preserved.

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## MODEL OF CAPITOL

what the Cardiff Giant was to Fort Dodge in the closing days of the gay mineties. The Model Capitol was the child of the World Columbian Exposition at Chicago, while the Cardiff Giant owed its existence to an ingenious artisan who perpetrated the clever hoax. A piece of gypsum was quarried from the bods at Fort Dodge, and the monolith was shaped into a human form by a skilled cutter. The "form" was then represented as a fossil from the gypsum deposits, and exhibited over the country as a sample of a race that lived back in some stone age. For a time it fooled scientists as well as ordinary gullibles, but the hoax was at last detected. The "giant" now sleeps in a dishonored grave, though the hoax is well remembered by the older generation.

The Model Capitol came of respectable origin and never at any time was associated with an attempt to deceive; its intentions were always honorable. But because of its attractiveness and winsome qualities it fascinated only to mislead into disappointment. Its life story has to do with the so-called World's Fair at Chicago, 1893. Iowa's state building was one of the most attractive on the ground, and at the head of attractive exhibits in the building was the Model Capitol. Everybody wanted to see it, and none who saw it failed to speak of it after coming home. The model was a

rare piece of work in its line. The state building at Des Moines was produced in replica, singularly true to major details. The architectural design was followed, showing basement, steps, pilasters and side walls, roof, dome and flag staff. Walls were of double glass panes with spaces between which were filled with corn grains of variegated colors. Using colored grains the state emblem was artistically designed and popular mottoes were wrought. Even Sid Foster's slogan, "In all that is good Iowa affords the best," had a conspicuous place. A picture of the model might have passed for a picture of the state house. The model in bulk occupied the space, approximately, of an Austin automobile of the present day, and the thought that it might be preserved in some museum in the state was entertained by many. It would be a thing of beauty for future generations to look upon, and be valuable in revealing the manner Towa helped make history in the great exposition. As the exposition drew to a close doubt lingered no longer as to the advisability of placing the model in a museum at some state institution as a permanent exhibit. By some hook or crook it was wished on Iowa State College, and over the protest of the canny Scotsman at the head of the department it was given space in the Agricultural hall. The protesting head of the department denounced it as a piece of folly, insisting that it was unsuited to be placed in any museum because of its perishable nature and its fragile construction. It had no place among specimens of primitive vehicles, plows, ox yokes, crude farm tools and household utensels, and was out of date when

the fair closed. Nevertheless, at considerable expense the model was loaded on a flat car and shipped to Amos. Its installation on the upper floor of Agricultural hall was no small task, but when completed it became the most interesting exhibit on the campus. The head of the department did not soften his protest when he was accused of looking a gift horse in the mouth. He simply growled, "Wait and see." It was not necessary to wait long, for the floor beneath the model began to sink. The weight was too great, and the substructure began to settle. Supports were placed beneath and it might have had a career of security had it not offended in another direction. It appeared that while it was looked upon and admired by visitors who came and went its frame warped and its joints cracked with the result that its inards escaped and found their way about the premises. Grains of corn of various colors were to be observed on the floors of Agricultural hall, on the stairways, down on the walks and about campus paths. Coincident with promiscuous grains of corn came a pest of mice, almost as widely scattered. Mice were to be seen everywhere, even in drawers of office desks and between the floors and ceilings of the building, and in every crevice in the model capitol could be found mice in all stages of development. Of course there were mice at other places, but it seemed for a time that every mouse in Story county was in Ag. hall, or elsewhere on the college grounds.

It was impossible for "Tama" Jin Wilson, boud of the department, to do the subject justice, but had. 't be told 'em that the model, with all its beauty and in paralty of construction, was unsuited as a museum exhibit? Had he not tried to get the thing wished off on the University, the state historical society, or elsewhere, anywhere away from Ames? The mice and the mess so evident in whatever direction one faced were not of his making, they existed because his protest was ignored. But, he pointed out, the only way to eradicate the pertiferous situation, to get rid of the mice and stop their propagation, was to remove the cause. All this would never have happened had his protest in the first instance been heeded. He took morbid pleasure in rubbing it in on the authorities who had the model brought to the college and then established it in the agricultural museum. They hold their hands to their ears to keep from hearing him say, over and over, "I told you so!"

A force was set to work when springtime came and the mice resumed their pilgrimages over the campus and through the buildings, and the model capitol was dismantled and prepared for removal. After being resolved into its component parts, wood, metal, fibre, leather and prunella, it was distributed as if to the four winds and disappeared from view.

This beautiful structure, in the place for which it was designed, among the creations of art and architecture, at a time when observers were looking for the unusual, was a

thing of beauty and delighted gazing eyes. But among specimens of farm tools, vehicles and implements, household utensils of ancient vintage, it was out of place and time, and did not have a chance. Because of its perishable nature it fell a prey to a pest as deadly as an Egyptian scource and came to an ignominious end. It did not have a show, it ought never been sent to college.

"Vox Populi" had something to say about the Model Capitol. What was meant by the authorities who spent public money to bring the "fool thing" to Ames? Wasn't it known by anybody who had an ounce of brain that the Des Moines managers who had charge at Chicago were playing a practical joke when they tried to wish it off on some Iowa institution? It only saved them the trouble of cremating the structure, it was alleged. Local newspapers had fun with college authorities for being so gullible. Victims of a practical joke, it was charged, had the wool pulled over their eyes. Iowa tampayers paid the fiddler.

So passed from view a companion piece of the Fort Dodge Cardiff Giant, memories of the gay nineties, one a hoax, the other a joke.

## GENERAL GEDDES

rendered through quiet unobtrusive channels, was a potent factor in the evolution of the new institution. He was its first steward, organized the student body within their new family home and outlined the course of their lives while they dwelt together in new relationship. It was no small task to evolve a system that provided living conditions, with new contacts and associations for boys and girls to dwell together under new surroundings. As stewart he had charge of the grounds and buildings, the boarding department and dormitories and was responsible for the easy running of affairs around the college.

In addition to his duties as steward he served as instructor of military tactics and was responsible to the government for carrying out the provision of the organic law for instruction of military tactics. By nature, training and experience he was well suited for that position. Soldier, tactician and patriot, he took pride in everything pertaining to this department. So well did he succeed that his cadets were the pride of the national guards in Iowa, and of the Grand Army comrades everywhere.

Though vice-president of the college, the general was seldom identified with executive affairs, preferring to devote his time to active department work where lay his prime responsibilities.

James Lorain Coddes was a native of Edinburgh, where he was born, March 19, 1827. His first 10 years were spent in his native city, but moved with the family to Comada where he resided for seven years, and in 1846 he returned to Edinburgh. The same year he entered the service of the East India Company, and sailed from London to Calcutta. Soon after apriving at Calcutta his plans were changed and he entered the British School at Dum Dum, at the time headquarters of the army commanded by his uncle, Col. William Geddes of the Royal Horse Artillery.

After leaving the school at Dum Dum he joined the
horse artillery of the Punjaub under command of General Hugh
Gough, and engaged in a number of noted battles. His service
in Indian extended through many campaigns under noted comminders.
When he retired, to continue in a different line he recieved a
medal from Queen Victoria. His subsequent service was in
Canada, where he organized a regiment of cavalry and brought
it to a high state of efficiency. He resigned his commission
in 1858, and moved to the United States, settling in Iowa, near
Vinton, Benton county. He was induced to come to the United
States because of the character of its institutions which
conformed to his ideals. But he was here but a brief period
when the war cloud spread over the nation and Fort Sumpter was
fired upon. His neighbors in Benton county, in a burst of
patriotism, organized a company and wishing to avail themselves

of his experience in foreign wars chose him captain. But before his company was mustered in the governor commissioned him colonel of the 8th Iowa cavalry.

He saw active service from the beginning, and had had several engagements before joining Grant's command at Pittsburg Landing. His record in that encounter is told in the story of Shiloh and subsequent campaigns. He was brevetted brigadier general at the close of the war and no officer stood in higher favor with veterans in Iowa in the years that followed. He had taken part in encampments of the Grand Army and appeared at gatherings of the order whenever he might be of service to the veterans who were unrestrained in admiration of him.

It is important to know his standing with old comrades and their organization to understand his retirement from military instructor, a position he held from the beginning.

The episode which displaced him with Capt. James Rush Lincoln of the Confederate arm shocked many outside Grand Army circles or personal friends of the old Union general.

At the time of his removal in 1892 he was popular with the students and performing his duties with satisfaction to the college and the people of the state. But newly elected trustees changed the political complexion of the board and political debts contracted during the previous campaign were pressing for liquidation. The field of education was invaded by the political buccaneers and making adjustments General Geddes! name was stricken from the roll. Thus was created an

opportunity to pay off a debt incurred by some cheap politician in a near by county. Such jobs are not rare in practical politics, and often the beneficiary of the transaction is the passive and innocent instrumentality of the deal.

In this instance Captain James Rush Lincoln was used to put the deal over, and to pay off the "boys" who had put through a more important matter affecting politicians higher up. It was an emergency deal and had to be completed and off the record before another campaign when things were supposed to be settled and finally disposed of. General Geddes might be kicked out with impunity because for the moment he had no political attachments, there was nobody to make immediate trouble, so off went his head. Capt. Lincoln had resided in the vicinity of Boone since the close of the civil war. A New Englander by birth, he was educated in a military school in Pennsylvania, and living in Virginia at the breaking out of the civil war joined the Confederate army. He commanded a company in the battle of Gettysburg and for gallantry in the noted Pickett charge was signally honored. When Lee surrendered at Appointtox and the army was disbandoned Captain Lincoln turned his face to the north, finally settling at Boone, Iowa. There he established a home, sought to amalgamate with the northern people and fraternize with men against whom he had served in the late unpleasantnesss. How well he succeeded may be judged by the fact that he held local

office and had become a responsible business man and a factor in the community. Had he not possessed rare qualities for winning men to him and inspiring confidence he could not have overcome the prejudice against a man of northern birth fighting in the confederacy when the boys were organizing to preserve war memories and keep the camp fires still burning. No more eligible person could have been selected. So it was that Capt. Lincoln, late of Pickett's army on the field of Gettysburg, was given Geddes's place, to head the department of military and teach military drill and tactics. The Grand Army was then at its height in Iowa, going good and becoming more influential every year. The effect of removing a General Geddes, gallant commander of the fighting 8th cavalry, the beloved leader in its own organization, efficient and faithful servant in the State College, was received as a shock, and protest after protest went up from scores of posts against what was at the time called an outrage. It was bad enough, it was asserted, to remove the general from a position he filled with satisfaction, and needed for the support of his family, but insult was added to injury in putting in his place a man who had fought with the forces that attempted to destroy the nation. But protests availed nothing for the victim and in his humiliation he moved back to his little farm in Benton county and passed a few years in retirement. Politicians went ahead bartering petty offices for favors higher up, ignoring obligations that ought to bind men in public places, and vicissitudes of individuals continued

but secondary. In a few years, in 1800, a place was made for the general and his latter years were spent in the employment of the college. The place made for his return was a sort of consolatory gift to sooth an injured wounded soul. His self respect, his high sense of justice and independent Scotch soul revolted, but necessity made declination of the sop impractical.

Nothing in the history of those years appears to reflect upon the integrity of Capt. James Rush Lincoln. While his installment in the position filled acceptably by General Geddes inflicted hardship and humiliation upon a worth incumbent, it would be unjust to charge him with manipulation to bring it about. Nor can the ethics of displacing a loyal, brave and gallant soldier with one who fought on the Confederate side, be approved. It must not be overlooked that the feelings of the war between the states had not yet been allayed. Neither side had yet manifested the reconciling spirit that has since blotted out sectional hatred. And as a matter of practical politics the boys late in arms felt that they ought to be given preference in the distribution of patronage. Such considerations forced attention, though they reflected in nowise on the personal worth of Captain Lincoln. The general was educated in the manual of arms, had served in two armies, had a distinguished record in the defense of his adopted nation, was a favorite wherever veterans gathered. In every relation connected with the college he had won approval and appreciation. His removal for

of dirty politics, and was so denounced by those who understood the situation.

Fortunately for the college Capt. Lincoln had the background to placate an ugly situation. He was still under 40, able and ambitious, anxious to make his way among the Union veterans among whom he had lived since coming north. He also was educated in the science of war, military tactics and practical warfare. From the start he showed a capability that challenged criticism and gradually became assimilated into college favor, and in due time was accepted as a man of merit regardless of past military record. He became an active factor in the national guard of the state and mixed on equal footing with the boys who wore the blue. So did he stand with the guard that when the Spanish war came on he was commissioned commander by the governor and had charge when the boys were mustered into service. He emerged from the war with the commission of brigadier general. The character of his instruction was noted in every encampment in which his students were presented. And nothing can be more effective in establishing his thoroughness than the fact that a number of his students entered the army on examination, and not through West Point, after taking his course of instruction. His three sons who became officers of high rank, took examinations for entry to the army and received no other instruction than that given by their father. As an officer in the world

war he rendered valuable service in encampments training and organization for service overseas, but for army rules was not permitted to serve at the battlefront. General Lincoln came to the college under circumstances that would have defeated the average person. He was the pawn in a potty political deal, though in nowise responsible for its consummation. But through marked efficiency and exercise of rare common sense he overcame all prejudice and ingratiated himself into favor and confidence. His record in connection with the college places him along side of the persons who raised the institution to respect among others of its class throughout the land. As a soldier and citizen of the state he occupies a prominent in the annals of his day.

General Geddes ranks high in the annals of the western army, especially of Grant's campaigns in the southwest. Even before the battle of Shiloh his regiment, the 8th Iowa cavalry, had performed valuable service against guerrilla warfare in Missouri and Arkansas. At Shiloh it held a pivotal point and helped save the day. The boys after returning home were always ready to sound his praise and express admiration for one who had returned to the ranks among them. The protest they registered over the indignity done him was genuinely heartfelt. He deserved it in all fullness.

## CLASS GRADUATES WITHOUT DIPLOMAS

In the flotsam that has amde its appearance on the surface at intervals in the last generation appears the story of the class that graduated without receiving diplomas. This floater after disappearance has come again to revamp the nebulous tale.

However, thereby hangs a tale.

The class of 77 composed of average boys and girls, though including a few of outstanding in attainments, had reached the last term of a four-year course without untoward incident. Relations with the faculty were cordial, and among classmates a commendable family spirit prevalied. Commencement was looked forward to as an event that would consummate a happy college experience. It was to be made joyous with the consciousness of work well done and the rededication of ties that it was hoped would last a life time. The faculty rejoiced with the students on the prospect of an auspicious close of the school year, the consummation of a year's engagement in common and enjoyable endeavor.

But a change came over the spirit of their dreams.

From an unexpected source, and at an unexpected time, came an incident that shattered the most cherished relations. Ties that bound together faculty and students of the graduating class were severed for the once and their attitude became antagonistic. The "offense" of the faculty was simple in its

nature, coming as it did from a meeting in which were adopted new regulations regarding the selection of speakers for the approaching commencement. Whereas, speakers for the occasion had been up to that time selected on the basis of class standing, the new order provided that each member of the class be required to prepare an address to be submitted to the faculty and graded. Choice was to be made according to rank. Since the status quo was to be disturbed the class requested that the faculty make the selection according to precedent, or if otherwise, waive the new requirement and make it arbitrarily. There was little more than the difference of tweedle-de and tweedle-dum between them. But even that was enough to keep the contending parties apart. One was determined to "show" the other and the latter refused to be "shown." It was contended that the faculty had scrapped precedent and was proceeding along arbitrary lines, heedless of the "rights" of students. On the one hand was evidenced a degree of pigheadedness, unexpected in maturer minds, while on the other side was youthful impulsiveness that might have been brought under direction with the exercise of common sense. The incident is valuable as indicating how unnecessary impacts are reached in college management, and how easily clashes can be averted. The class for its insubordination was evicted from the college and forced to leave the premises. So much for authority trying to "show em" and clashing youth refusing to be "shown."

were secured in the Town of Ames, where they cathered and carried on their campaign for relastatement. A member of the class whose home was in Ottumwa where resided Dr. C. C. Warden, president of the board of trustees, was delegated to present the case and try to get a meeting of the board for an appeal. The result was that such a meeting was procured, at which a reconciliation was reached. It was decided that speakers should be chosen by the faculty, with an implication that none of the leaders in insubordination should participate in the honor. Students returned to the college on invitation of the president and the routine of ante bellum days was resumed.

Thus far diplomas did not appear in the picture.

But when graduation day arrived, and there were no diplomas, confusion made its way to the office of the president. He was resourceful enough to provide for the missing number on the program. By use of sheets of paper of the proper size and substance he devised make-believe diplomas suitably rolled and ribboned. These he handed out with formality and solemnity worth of the occasion, and the manner in which they were passed back and forth by the class left no doubt in the mind of the spectators that everything was regular.

Within a few days the genuine articles arrived and in due time they were filled out and signed by the proper officers. But since there was a charge of \$\infty\$5.00 for each one

they were not called for very promptly. Many of them remained uncalled for for many years. Whether it was due to the lack of appreciation of the sheepskin, lack of the necessary \$5.00 or some other cause one can but conjecture. One member of the class who had paid the price shortly after graduation failed to call for the last diploma on hand, and when it finally reached her fifty years after, it was forwarded by a friend.

The story of the diplomas is but an incident in a more important episode, one involving discipline in college government, and failure of the faculty to exercise restraint and good sense at all times.

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## BEARDSHEAR UDINUTTOUS

President Beardshear was always in close touch with what was taking place in the college or on the campus. He appeared to have a special sense whereby he could find out what was going on, often what was going to occur. It seemed well nigh impossible for students to carry out plans most secretly formed and carefully guarded. Telepathy or some other mysterious means of communication disclosed to him events of college life and enabled him to be on the spot when the curtain was raised. It used to be said of him that he could see farther into a grindstone than any other man that ever lived.

at their pranks, and so often interfered with their "sneak" undertakings. How he appeared on the scene when supposed to be far away, and how he slipped through the most vigilant outposts and caught them in the midst of their clandestine performances. How did he find out? How did he penetrate into their minds and activities, through studied safeguards? How did he know that it was a certain student in the group before him that stole the farmers' chickens? How could he so often spot the right one? How did he know that the students were out to make a night of it the time he appeared among them, slipping his arm around one, then walking him to Boone and back (and he was a fast walker), how did he know that they were out on a lark, on mischief bent? How did he know what

was going on the night he broke in on the privacy of the students who had a keg of beer on tap and were lost to the world in a poker game, in a room on the fourth floor? Stories galore are repeated in the college community of incidents of this nature where he made use of this sixth sense, where regardless of darkness, distance or time, he kept in touch with what was going on.

An incident that occurred in May, 1894, when a new board of trustees with several new members had organized for the ensuing term, when Beardshear demonstrated, unconsciously, his ability to know in advance what was going to take place. It happened that at the time students were undergoing their periodic revulsion against the boarding department, and thought the occasion apropos to put on a little drama which they called "Initiating the New Members."

on the front porch of the Old Main, smoking, swapping yarns and discussing business of the session, there appeared on the campus in front a dozen or more white clad figures which filed out and seated themselves about a clump of flowering shrubs. They spoke in sepulchural tones and touched on uncerthly things. It was explained that they had starved to death in a college boarding department at a place named Ames, Iowa, and predicted that their numbers would be soon increased by others in the process of starving. By turns they related their stories, each telling how Steward Anderson had inflicted the extreme

penalty. One told how rancid butter had destroyed the digestive organs, another could never get helf enough to eat, still another said that the food was half cooked, or over done, never right. College hash came in for a series el indictments. All the backy baseled jober and lodge against college food were burnished for the occusion was wanted to the general complaint. ( There was a proper finale to the drama when a speaker evidently not on the program interrupted with an extra. The voice was not sepulchral, rather it was significantly real and familiar to student ears. The face of the speaker was bewhiskered and his stature was silhouetted against the clear sky as plain as the outlines of the campanille. For it was President Beardshear in the flesh with every attribute of command and authority. He was there to announce the closing scene of "Initiating the New Members," and made his further announcement, that there would be a meeting of all present (he had their names on a pad) in his office at 10 o'clock next morning. With an injunction, to get to their rooms and stay there they were released for the present. Che of the white robed figures, now a man wrinkled and gray, recently stated to the writer that they were never able to find out how the president got wise to their plan for the little show. Nor did they know whether he was one of the group from the first, or joined it while the speeches were being made. But, said he, Beardshear was always that way.

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the structure of self government. The units were too heterogenious to unite in an effective whole. From this mass it was next to impossible to select responsible persons for officers.

Besides, opportunity was rife for clever young politicians to rule the sections by getting themselves or chums in control to decide the manner of government that should prevail. There was not enough difference in age, or position, between officers and constituents to establish competent and stable government.

The result was a government, for the most part, that the student body regarded with slight respect, and looked upon with disrespect. Captains were timid, fearful to give offsense by doing their duty, and moreover often being impulsive and prompted by pique or personal dislike to commit glaring acts of prejudice or partiality. Government was therefore fitful, uncertain, halting and generally inefficient. Orders of the captains were ignored and decisions of the council lacked much of the acquiescence that would give them force and effect. An incident came up in the second decade of the college's history. A student in one of the upper classes was reported by his captain for an act of the peculiar kind that may be looked upon as a harmless prank or an offense against good order, depending on the view point. But the council

after hearing the "facts" imposed a penalty of some severity. The student, backed by many of his friends, insisted that he had committed no offense and the sentence was unjust. There was revolutionary blood in his veins, and when haled before a meeting of the faculty, where his case was on appoal, speaking out in his own behalf he presented his viewpoint and declared the absence of any intent of violating the code. The president said to him: "Mr. ----, I do not like your attitude in trying to interpret our rules in a way that removes all blame from you, an undisciplined young man, and did I not incline to save you from your impulsive self I would order your name removed from the student roll of this college." The young man who came of revolutionary stock, whose father had fought with distinction in a notable struggle for libery in the old country felt goaded to expression of self justification, and turning to the elder said: "Mr. President, were I not confirmed in my sense of innocence and in control of my impulses I would take you acress my knee and spank your ----- pants." That ended the session, the young man was given his walking papers next morning and bidding goodby to his partisans who by this time numbered a majority of all who knew about the incident, he departed, to pursue his studies elsewhere. He did return, however, but that was years after, when he was a member of congress from a western state (Nebraska). He was accompanied by his wife, a popular and lovely alumnus who

shared in his honors and a magnificent welcome. When he passed away, he was rich in worldly goods and honors conferred by his fellow men. (E. J. Hainer, Class 175)

The system died when it was discovered that it had no place in a modernized student body. For yours before its demise it had ceased to function and had but a ghost existence. Never a vitalized body it became atrophied and as useless as a mummy. The advent of Dr. W. M. Beardshear as president marked the doom of self government. The new president knew something about the art of government, he lmew human nature and understood the minds of young people. To his mind the system of self government had little to command it even in theory and he swept it aside to make room for government on the "university plan", that of placing boys and girls on their own responsibility, answerable only to the institution itself, which meant to the president, who was the executive head. The boys and girls were prompt to accept the challenge of personal responsibility, without intervening fiction or student interference, and from the start the Beardshear regime vindicated the wisdom of the change. The plan of central government, executive direct control, has been applied with good results ever since. Much depended upon the ability of the president to manage young people, just as heads of families differ in the control and products of their households. Dr. Beardshear was supremely successful chiefly because of his

with individuals according to his interpretations. This quality was supplemented by his ability to be almost everywhere at almost all the time. His presence seemed to be obiquitous, for he was on the spot when things happened. It seemed beyond possibility to carry out an undertaking, practical joke or student prank without his turning up when the trick was turned.

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## LONG VACATION

Prom the opening of the Iowa State Agricultural College the school year began in March and closed in November, with a vacation of about two weeks in the summer. This schedule, with commencement in November, obtained till the summer of 1900, when the present arrangment was established.

There were two main reasons for the dates adopted, both of which appeared important to the authorities in control. While the opening of school year in the fall and its close in the early summer was universally practiced, land grant colleges were presumed to offer a new field of operation in which established means of procedure would have to undergo many changes. The time for a change of technique had arrived.

For instance, one of the prime objectives of the new education was to dignify manual labor and give it respectability and credibility comparable to that accorded the professions. The College was founded to give instruction in agriculture and the mechanical arts, which could be accomplished only through the employment of manual labor. The idea then prevailed that the college farm could be improved and operated with students who, in the performance of manual labor, worked out the credits required in the curriculum. The plan, loosely intermingling theory with

practice, was idealistic and in high fuver at the time of its adoption.

During the winter months there was little besides routine work to do. Prevailing weather conditions made experimental undertakings impossible, laboratory practice was impractical, and there was little to do, outside the class rooms. What edge could the new college have on others, which ran through the winter and took the surmer off for vacation? Why wait till spring came? Beginning in March preliminaries for farm work could be arranged, and when seed time arrived operations would be put in motion. Students would be hardened in muscles and start the season's work fully prepared. Crops were to be planted, cultivated and harvested, and students, incidentally, enabled to earn part of their expenses (8 to 10 cents per hour) and, last but not least, manual labor was to be dignified.

the foregoing and somewhat kindred in purpose. For it had to do with helping students to earn money while passing through college. Iowa was in the making during the years subsequent to the civil war. Still in debt, farmers had to make every stroke take effect in order to pay maturing indebtedness. They worked hard, every member of the family toiled, helped to free the homestead from the mortgage and establish living conditions about the household. Elder members of the family

remained at home till reaching their majority in order to help bring about the happy consummation. The college then adelescent was developed in a period of forced economy. People felt the stress and indulged in no lumuries, for it was only by economical practices that they made progress.

attracted widespread attention. It meant, even to the more prosperous, denial in the home and increased effort to make the farm or small business bring in more income, to aid the absent one through school. Up to the opening of the institution at Ames only a classic education was available, and the result was to educate the youths away from the farms.

During the years of agitation for the Ames college ambition came unbidden to the moderate homes in city and towns, as well as on the farm, and a spirit of self help animated the young people. Hundreds of boys and girls emperienced their first thrill of ambition when learning of the advantages afforded at the Ames institution.

It promised a new education. Development was in prospect along different lines, and instead of the classics and humanities would come knowledge about existent things, farm life and development, building operations and construction of material enterprises. Life's problems would therefore be solved more immediately and abundantly. Young people with character and mental resources were eager to grasp the opportunity.

school in the winter months could earn chough to pay their way through college the ensuing year. By starting the college year in March, when rural schools closed, they could get in between three and four months work and not be absent from their classes. The plan suited the schedule in rural districts and was found to be workable. Many boys and girls worked their way through the entire course without receiving aid from cutside sources. Had it not been for employment during the long vacation higher education would have been beyond their reach.

But plans on paper, rich in promise, and apparently practical, often fail to work out. Discrepancy between theory and practice causes many a headache. And so it was realized when the discovery was made that student labor, with its interruptions, conflicting interests and mongrel preparation, was unsuited to farm operations. The farm requires steady, unremittant, patient labor, and can not yield to interruption, uncertain efforts or incompetent service. How could exactions on the farm be complied with when students, as was frequently the case, knew nothing about the use of tools, handling of horses or care for the equipment? Besides, students had to be changed so often, to permit attendance at classes, and were off Saturdays and frequently detained for employment in the laboratory.

The home farm could not be operated with coascless interruption and incompetent labor. Neither could crops on the college farm be planted, cultivated or harvested under such untoward circumstances. The plan failed, things did not "jibe."

Teaching in the winter had much to commend it.

But it also had drawbacks. Students in numerous instances
left college sometimes weeks before the end of the term, in
order to open their schools. Their studies were interrupted
and they encountered trouble on resuming classwork the next
term. The same interruption ensued when students were late
in returning in the spring. Just another element of irregularity which annoyed and sometimes caused friction.

In the course of time it became a trifle difficult to procure country schools. Seerley was graduating large classes at the State Normal school at Cedar Falls, and teachers professionally qualified were to be had in nearly every district in the 99 counties. A new situation was thus created.

The arguments advanced by the founders for the long winter vacation, with November commencement and the school session through the summer lost force when the grounds on which they were based were swept away. Student labor had failed on the farm. Teaching school, though still available, was no longer a substantial resource. Was there any special

reason why the time schedule which was out of line with other schools should be retained?

Knapp had observed that the I. S. C. was getting but comparatively few of the graduates of high schools in citics and towns. While a good per cent of them entered some college the autumn after leaving high school in June, only the exceptional among them matriculated at Ames. With the ample capacity of taking care of vastly increased numbers they proceeded to investigate. In the meantime a class was instituted to prepare for the freshman class, thus bridging any possible gap between the college and the high schools. But the preparatory class was soon abandoned as impractical.

The conclusion reached by Beardshear and Knapp after investigation was that young people after leaving the high schools made arrangements early in the summer for entering college. They were ready to go at the opening of the fall semester, and saw no reason to wait till the following spring, when school opened at the Ames institution. Thus the I.S.C. lost out, because others had taken in the high school product.

The authorities proceeded to change the dates when the president made his recommendation. Opposition to the change had support by conservative members of the faculty, who were stirred with misgivings. The fact that only one

(Irlansas) land grant college to block outer,

with all other schools in the nation was observed. For it was in a state next to the bottom of the literacy list, where Iowa was, and still is, at the head.

The consequences the authorities foresaw followed and from that time till this the Iowa State College has drawn heavily from the high schools of the state. Those young people with their rich background have made possible the adoption of higher qualifications for entry, and the adherence to the best scholastic standards.

Apropos, reference should be made to the many students who have attended the college in the years of its history, who never had the advantages of high school training. In the early years of the I. S. A. C. the majority of its students on entering never had seen the inside of a high school or local "academy." They were boys and girls who had attended district schools, studied at home and acquired general information, picking it up in a desultory manner and from any source whatever. Active, bright-minded, acquisitive and alert, they absorbed from their invironments, the atmosphere, the sunlight and their associates. Most of them, self-taught, and self-inspired, had taught in the home district before going to Ames. And when there they passed the examinations, entered the classes and made proud records. They were hungry

for the food that was not broad, and with what avidity they swallowed the morsels, then delved and dug for more. Those lank-jawed boys and girls, plainly and thinly, though neatly and tastily clad, were charming in their simplicity and unconsciousness. They established the standards that have inspired the student body of this institution through the years of its existence.

There has never been regret that the schedule was changed. Industrial conditions changed about the same time and students deprived of opportunity to teach during the long vacation found other employment which was about as remunerative. The change was simply another adjustment to get in line with the advancing column.

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## BEARDSHEAR AND UPTURN

The agricultural department suffered more than any other in the unfortunate controversies that marked the latter years of the Chamberlain administration. The farm organizations of the state became alienated because of what they regarded as an unfriendly attitude on part of the administration. Agriculture, as they viewed the situation, was not given recognition of the arrangement of the college course and the drift of instruction was toward the academic, just as was charged under the guidance of the first president. He movement was made to engraft agriculture into the major courses, and agriculture, which many insisted was the major purpose was given secondary consideration. Leaders throughout the state lost heart, and interest in the department lagged from year to year. This lack of interest was reflected in the registry at the college, where it was recorded that only one student was enrolled in agriculture. Practically the department had ceased to function. This was the condition when the Pure Stock Breeders Association, the leading agricultural association in Iowa at the time, met at Newton in 1890.

at the college were at the nadir and with vision worthy of the crisis started the movement that opened the way to a period of growth and popular support that secured permanent success for the college in all its departments.

resign. His continuance was impractical. Perhaps no two other men had as much to do in effecting the change in administration and internal organization than Charles P. Saylor, member of the board from the Des Moines district, and Dr. Charles D. Boardman, member from the Sioux City district, both alumni of the college. They had not only an intimate knowledge of the college and its affairs, they were deeply interested in restoring it to popular favor and starting it out on a new era of prosperity. They found ready cooperation among agricultural organizations and with other members of the board of trustees brought together a group of friends who secured results in a remarkably short time.

Saylor had been superintendent of schools of Polk county and become intimate with Dr. W. M. Beardshear, who for two years had been superintendent of the Des Moines city schools. He knew his worth as an educator and believed that he possessed qualities that would develop as head of the college. After a number of conferences Beardshear was induced to accept the presidency, in which position he was to be given a free hand. The choice for president it was felt from the beginning was fortunate, for reasons that were obvious at the time. But that was only the first step in the reorganization under contemplation. Affairs in the agricultural department were at the nadir and in nood of thorough overhauling. If the new president was to be supported a strong man must be placed in charge of that department and cooperation of the

farm organizations must be scenred.

and James Wilson came together at this juncture. As president of Western college, at Toledo, before going to Des Meines, Beardshear had become a friend and admirer of James (Tama) Wilson, who was active in the civic life and educational affairs of their home county. Their trend of thought and interest in current life were along the same line and their associations were congenial. It was more than a coincidence in their coming together on the occasion of reorganizing the college. It was the consummation of events of mutual interest.

of Beardshear were the most important in the college organization. Ever since the Welch upheaval the presidency fared badly with the shifting fortunes to politics and clashing enterprises of faculty factions attempting to even old scores. With political bickering and rankling emitties that refused to be placated with the passage of time the presidency was kicked about between the factions as a major weapon of warfare.

Grave responsibility rested upon the choice at the time of the Beardshear election and the real friends of the college rallied to support the action of the board. No less importance attached to the head of the agricultural department. Leaders of farm organizations had lost confidence and were apathetic toward the institution. In

In the turmoil that prevailed for a decade and a half the agricultural department almost disappeared as an educational force, the legislature took perfunctory action, making only such appropriations as were deemed necessary. The only way to revive the department, it was apparent, was to enlist the interest of the alienated leadership, mobilize the forces that had become effective, make use of resources available and build up through organization. It was an awakening along this line that roused the Breeders' meeting at Howton, in 1890, and began the recovery movement that started a new era in the development of the college. As it often happens, the right men appeared to meet the emergency. Bourdshear was in the prime of life, had the proper background for an educational career, and as president of one of the minor colleges in the state, had attained high standing among educators. His prestige was heightened by success attained at the head of the Des Moines city schools. His election met general approval, which was confirmed by a record of achievement that was terminated by his unfortunate death nine years afterward.

An equally fortunate choice was made in the election of James (Tama Jim) Wilson to the chair of agriculture. He was a close personal friend of Beardshear, who for years was president of the college at Toledo, in Tama county. He had reached the age of mature middle life, his years from early

manhood having been full of activity as a citizen and public men. A practical farmer, by the time he had reached the middle thirties he had served three terms as member of the legislature, the last term having been speaker of the house. From the legislature he went to congress, where he also served three terms. Heanwhile he was prominent in civic life of the state and was regarded as a leader in various farm organizations. He was the first thinker on farm and public questions to syndicate his writings and supply them to the newspapers of Iowa. His syndicated letters afforded means for discussion of timely subjects and getting a variety of thought before the public. Wilson's syndicated letters preceded and filled the space occupied in after years by the technical agricultural papers at the state capital. A man of such qualification had no difficulty in winning the confidence of the Iowa people, who lmew his past and had reason to believe that he would lay a firm foundation.

The accession of Wm. M. Beardshear to the presidency started a new era. Given unlimited authority to deal with existing problems as well as those that might rise, he took hold with a firm graps. He let it be known that the petty tickering that had pestered the presidents before him, the back biting and personal detraction and ceaseless efforts to even up old scores, would be considered inimical to college discipline and destructive of college morals. Therefore effences

eolicge rules, and offenders would be asked to remove from the community. If there were present persons who did not desire to live and work together in harmony they would have to withdraw and find quarter elsewhere. Those who had sharpened their tongues with back biting and exercised ingenuity in social life in getting even with the other fellow, be it man, woman, member of the faculty or member of his or her family, must make room for people whose chief interest must be the welfare of the college.

Beardshear's means of suppressing the shrewish tengue, and harmonizing the discordant elements among co-workers, by the process of elimination, worked to perfection.

A dozen years of petty strife in the community and underhanded opposition among men and women who ought to have been loyal to the institution, might have been averted by the Beardshear spirit.

opportunity to make practical application of his principles of government. It may be known that one of the incidents that made official life intolerable for President Chamberlain was the row with the college fraternities. It may be assumed that the end of Chamberlain's career was near whatever might have happened to the fraternities, but the end was hastened through their troublous incidents. More unfortunate was the fact that the irritating conflict was not settled with the retirement of the outgoing president. It was still pending when he took

of trustees, who expressed confidence in his ability to Carl with such a situation. Since the task was wished on him he made known his entire willingness to dispose of it. He took a month to sequaint himself, announcing at the beginning that his decision would be given them. At the expiration of the time stipulated he called together the faculty and student body and gave out his decision. Fraternities then in existence would be permitted to remain, hold meetings and function as in the past. But there should be no further initiations, nor additions through other means, so that when students then members left the college the existence of secret societies automatically terminated. Fraternities were to be taboo thenceforward.

(Bourdshear's decree was accepted in a spirit of obodience, until a student secured a clandestine initiation.

The student was expelled and took court action to enforce his reinstatement, but the authority of the college was sustained.)

## CAPEL SPECIFIED IN MUCHULI

A few days ago while strolling on the campus I was accosted by a resident of Ames whom I recalled as an attache of the mechanical department many years ago. He informed me that he understood I was interested in college history, and he had a story that was never written but would appear as an interesting episode.

Said he, have you noticed that camel so well mounted in the museum? It's a fine specimen and the taxidormist did his work well.

Yes, I had noticed the specimen that very morning, and agreed that it was a good job of taxidermy.

Say, do you know Billy Bryan, he asked. I assured that I had known him. That while he was a great orator and a splendid fellow I had no use for his vagaries, and when he ran for president I voted for his opponent, William McKinley. I hoped that now he was with the blest, peace to his ashes.

But that is not the Billy Bryan I have in mind. I refer to Billy Bryan who was a student here about 40 years ago. He chased ground squirrels, chipmunks, possums, porcupines and all kinds of varmint. No living thing that wore feathers or hair was safe within his reach, for he wanted to mount them for museum specimens.

Yet, what is the connection with Billy Bryan and the camel in the museum. Believe it or not, he replied, there is

to Ames and as the procession passed through town the camel gave a plunge, toppled over and died. Billy Bryan was soon in conference with the manager with the result that he procured the dead animal for the purpose of mounting. He came to me and told me what he wanted, and it did not take long to shape a head from a block of wood, and the necessary frame work was put together without delay. Why, that camel was restored to lifelike appearance. Legs, neck; ears, hump and tail, every feature and appendage were reproduced. Everything but the wicked look in the eye was restored and made to look as if the critter was alive and enjoying good health. That first attempt of Billy Bryan's is looked upon as a fine piece of workmanship, or product of the art and entitled to appear in any museum.

Probably Billy has forgotten his first offense. Since then he has become a leader in ethnological research and fossiliferous explorations, has written several books and the papers speak of him as "W. Alanson Bryan." But he was a good guy and we liked him. When you see him say hello, and tell him that every time the thought of him reminds me of a camel, although I an not claiming there is any resemblance.

Put this among your campus sidelights, won't you?

(Eryan is, and for many years has been in charge of the museum in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, and is one of the noted taxidermists in the United States.)

## GERMAN VISITORS

Strangers strolling over the campus are no uncommon sight and attract only casual attention. They may be passors-by incidentally surveying the premises, or representatives of some group desiring information about the state institution. There is so much unusualness about their presence as to pass without notice. It was different, however, in the case of a group of a dozen or so who appeared on the grounds one forencen in June in an early year of the century. They seemed to have a purpose beyond an inspection of campus and lost no time in seeking out the head of the agricultural department. The group was made up of substantial looking men, evidently educators, scientists and possibly industrialists, and created a favorable impression on Professor C. F. Curtiss, head of the department. Prosenting themselves they proved to be a delecation from the German imperial government on a mission to the United States to survey education in agriculture, and practical agriculture in the farm section of the country. The Ames institution, it was stated, was the best known in the fatherland of any of the colleges, and Iowa was recognized as the foremost farm state in this country. Credentials from the haiser's government gave them standing with the dean of arriculture who was never unprepared to do justice by such an occasion. His department was so completely organized that the German representatives were soon on their way inspecting the

the grounds, the laboratories and class rooms. The factor of the particular different afforded the most valuable emitting, and conlisted the deepest interest. Improvements, rectant factor, division into fields, experiment plats, feed lets, paddocks and pens for breeding animals, with the premises spick and span showing care and thoroughness brought forth repeated expressions of admiration. Not the least interest was shown in the live stock, embracing one of the finest collections of blooded emimals in the entire state. Among the horses and cattle were prize winners at state fairs and live stock expecitions of the previous season, and others were being prepared for show at expositions to be held the following autumn. With such a display of breeding animals, as bases for herds, it was easy to understand how Iowa was the leading live stock state in the nation.

So much of interest was developed during the day that the authorities decided upon a banquet in the evening in honor of the distinguished guests. Among the friends invited from cutside were a number from Des Moines, including some of the state officers. Col. Joseph Bibosch, editor of a Gorman language newspaper, was given a special invitation because of his familiarity with the vernacular of the visitors. The spokesman for the visitors was referred to as "Count", towered head and shoulders above his companions, a veritable Bismarck in stature, an evident gentleman of culture and cosmopolitan in bearing and intelligent in communication between his follows and the

A sequel to the well-spent day, where so many had been interested in the mission of the Germans, and the spirit engendered at the banquet, was a trip in a special car next day

from Cdebolt, Sae County. This ranch, or farm, was selected because it presented in an especial way many of the problems engaging the visitors in their survey in practical agriculture. It was one of perhaps three such large farm enterprises in

along lines of conservative farming, plain cropping and sale of grain on the markets, no opportunity existed for special features or experimentation. Cook resided in Chicago and had his ranch managed through an organization on the ground, with a well equipped center from where the organization was directed. Time had come when he decided to change the technique and divide a part at least into units comparing in size with the average farm. The processes of the transition were in progress at the time and an insight into what was going on was thought to be worth while. One thing to be noted, a graduate of the State college had been engaged to apply his special training.

The question of forestation was considered apropos discussion led to practical consideration. It was cited that over in Monona county, near Castana, the Mooreheads when they first settled there set out a tract, about 40 acres, to walnut forest, so the trees were slashed and cut into logs and lumber. These when sold brought a handsome sum of menoy.

An expert was secured to figure the relative value of the timber outlet and of crops raised on the ground for the period and sold for prevailing prices. His estimate was favorable to the "crop" of trees. Porestation became a live question about that time, and the department of forestry was added to the college organization. The effect has been to encourage tree planting and care for the groves already in existence.

An interesting incident was the discovery by one of the visitors of a pile of scraps, metal and stone evidently preserved as curios. Among them were nails and spikes, fragments of small hand tools, harrow teeth, bits of chain, harness buckles, etc. All had an interesting history as they had been taken from wooded tissue by the sawyers. They were encountered in the wood when the saws ran against them, and had to be cut out before the saws could proceed. The explanation was that these articles had been stuck into the surface and as the annual layer spread over them they disappeared but did not interfere with the yearly tree growth.

The Hon. Phil Schaller of Sac City, well informed on farm conditions in Iowa and the aims of Cook in making the changes on his ranch took a leading part in the doings of the day, especially in entertaining his landsmen. Modesty did not prevent him from calling attention to the possibility of gaining foothold in this land of opportunity. Presenting

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himself as "Exhibit A", he told how he, a boy in his teams, landed as a German immigrant at New York, soon after enlisted and served through the war for the preservation of the union, how after peace was proclaimed he came wost, became the owner of Iowa land and prospered as the years went by. He had helped make laws in the legislature, sat in convention that nominated a president, was honored in the order of the Grand Army and taken part in important movements in the state, had one of the finest homes in the county seat, and wasn't one of the prettiest small cities in the state named in his honor? The city of Schaller was almost in sight of where they stood at the moment. It is needless to say that "Exhibit A" made an impression on the listening landsmen.

the fact that the Germans had never seen anything like it before and wondered how it was used. Schaller procured proper appliances and had a quantity prepared, salted and buttered and presented for test. They were enthusiastic over the result and inquired minutely into the small kerneled ears, how it was grown, how prepared for eating. Pop corn balls, suitably seasoned and resembling snow balls and other spring flowers made the supreme hit. The "Count" declared that he would look into its cultivation in the homes, and Schaller further explained that Arthur, a nearby railroad station, was the pop corn capital of the world. Thousands of bushels were stored in an elevator ready for shipment, and growers would get

The second and the second and the second when the same was trading it is the first and the same was a The state of the first terms of terms of the first terms of term CAN THE COURT OF THE PARTY OF T Ta Should the said th 1 - 1 Details on the second ATTEMPT TO THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUM The state of the s AND REPORTED TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF The state of the s

that Sac county included the popcorn area of the world. A wrong impression, however, for other counties in Iowa were equally as favorable to its growth as Sac. The few farmers who paid high price for land because it was specially adapted to growing pop corn were disappointed, because it was found possible to raise it almost everywhere in the corn belt.

The ultimate aim of transition on the Cook ranch was never fully disclosed because plans were frustrated before completion. Financial difficulties interfered and objectives were abandoned never to be resumed. The extensive holdings were divided and sold to farms of ordinary size, quarter sections, and 200 acre areas. The impression prevailed afterwards that the scheme had no place in practical agriculture, and the injusion of science into the larger farm undertakings was taken care of by the college and experiment station.

It is interesting to note the operation of the Adams ranch, somewhat larger in area, situated only a few miles distant, where conditions and soil were pretty much alike. The Adams ranch was run along the lines of ordinary farming. Through a central organization crops were planted, cultivated and garnered much as on the smaller successful farms of the state. Grain was marketed under efficient management, and the enterprise was conducted on the plan of an industrial plant. Adams was warned that he was robbing the soil, and thereby

raining the land, by eropping year after year. However, he continued with judicious rotation of crops and realized satisfactory returns from the "industry." Just where seigntific farming and sensible, intelligent cultivation of the soil fraternized he did not bother to investigate. What he was sure of is, that he manufactured farm products at a prefit without the aid of laboratories or regimentation from the higher ups.





